

DOKUZ EYLÜL UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES

**MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING BASED
HEURISTICS FOR PRODUCTION ROUTING
PROBLEMS WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY
AND TRANSSHIPMENT**

by
Mustafa AVCI

June, 2019
İZMİR

**MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING BASED
HEURISTICS FOR PRODUCTION ROUTING
PROBLEMS WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY
AND TRANSSHIPMENT**

**A Thesis Submitted to the
Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences of Dokuz Eylül University
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of
Philosophy in Industrial Engineering, Industrial Engineering Program**

**by
Mustafa AVCI**

**June, 2019
İZMİR**

Ph.D. THESIS EXAMINATION RESULT FORM

We have read the thesis entitled “MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING BASED HEURISTICS FOR PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEMS WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY AND TRANSSHIPMENT” completed by MUSTAFA AVCI under supervision of PROF. DR. ŞEYDA A. YILDIZ and we certify that in our opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.



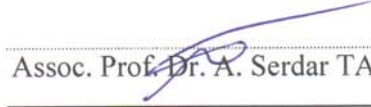
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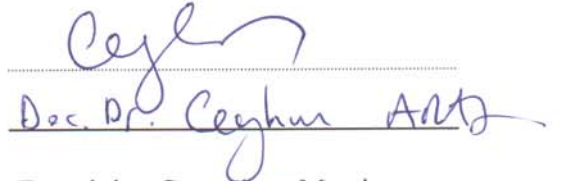
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Mustafa AVCI

MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING BASED HEURISTICS FOR PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEMS WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY AND TRANSSHIPMENT

ABSTRACT

The production routing problem (PRP) is an integrated operational planning problem that combines the two well-known optimization problems, vehicle routing problem (VRP) and lot-sizing problem (LSP). The purpose of this thesis is to integrate the visit spacing policy (VSP) and the concept of transshipments into the PRP. The reason behind considering the VSP in the context of the PRP is to ensure the service consistency. The VSP is especially important to provide higher quality service to the retailers. In this thesis, we extend the basic version of the PRP by taking into consideration the VSP. For its solution, an iterative matheuristic algorithm (MA) is proposed. The proposed MA is tested on a set of randomly generated problem instances with VSP as well as on standard PRP and the inventory routing problem (IRP) with the VSP benchmark instances. The results indicate the effectiveness of the algorithm. In order to achieve the second purpose of this thesis, we extend the classical version of the PRP by considering transshipments, either from supplier to retailers or between retailers, to further reduce the total cost. To solve the problem, we develop a mathematical programming heuristic. The algorithm is applied to two sets of randomly generated problem instances. The results show the effectiveness of the proposed approach. Moreover, an extensive computational study is performed to reveal the effect of the transshipments on the overall cost.

Keywords: Production routing problem, consistency, transshipment, visit spacing, matheuristics, heuristics

ZİYARET ARALIKLANDIRMA POLİTİKALI VE AKTARMALI ÜRETİM ROTALAMA PROBLEMLERİ İÇİN MATEMATİKSEL PROGRAMLAMA TABANLI SEZGİSEL YÖNTEMLER

ÖZ

Üretim rotalama problemi (ÜRP), araç rotalama ve parti büyüklüğü belirleme problemlerini birleştiren bir entegre operasyonel planlama problemidir. Bu tezin amacı ziyaret aralıklandırma politikası (ZAP) ve aktarma kavramının ÜRP kapsamında incelenmesidir. ZAP, perakendecilere daha kaliteli hizmet sağlayabilmek için özellikle önemlidir. Bu tez kapsamında, ÜRP'nin klasik versiyonu ZAP dikkate alınarak genişletilmiştir. Problemin çözümü için bir yinelemeli mat-sezgisel algoritma (MA) geliştirilmiştir. Önerilen MA rastgele türetilen problem örneklerinin yanı sıra, literatürde bulunan klasik ÜRP ve ZAP içeren envanter rotalama test problemlerine de uygulanmıştır. Elde edilen sonuçlar algoritmanın etkinliğini göstermektedir. Bu tezin ikinci amacı olan toplam sistem maliyetini düşürmek için, ÜRP'nin klasik versiyonu tedarikçiden perakendecilere veya perakendeciler arasındaki aktarmalar dikkate alınarak genişletilmiştir. İlgili problemi çözmek için, bir matematiksel programlama sezgiseli geliştirilmiştir. Önerilen algoritma, rastgele oluşturulmuş iki problem kümesine uygulanmıştır. Elde edilen sonuçlar önerilen çözüm yönteminin etkinliğini ortaya koymaktadır. Ayrıca, tıpkı ZAP'lı ÜRP için olduğu gibi, aktarmalı ÜRP için de ilgili kavramın maliyetler üzerindeki etkisini ortaya çıkarmak için geniş kapsamlı sayısal deneyler gerçekleştirilmiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Üretim rotalama problem, tutarlılık, aktarma, ziyaret aralıklandırma, mat-sezgiseller, sezgiseller

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Production Routing Problem and Its Importance

In a typical supply chain, the decision problems of production, inventory, distribution, and routing operations are generally optimized independently. For instance, the production lot-sizing operations are planned with the aim of minimizing the production and inventory holding costs at the production facility. Then, the distribution decisions are determined with respect to the lot-sizing decisions previously taken. Since a decision taken for a particular operation is used as an input for its successor operations, independent optimization of the problems does not give a satisfactory result for the entire system. Therefore, the integration of these decision problems has attracted research interest due to the benefits provided by the coordination of these operations. The advances in hardware technology and in optimization techniques have made possible to develop effective solution algorithms for these complicated problems. There exist many successful studies related to integrated inventory and distribution planning in the literature. For example, by implementing an integrated production and distribution planning system, the Kellogg company saves 4.5 million dollars in 1995 (Brown, Keegan, Vigus & Wood, 2001). In addition, it has been reported in Çetinkaya, Üster, Easwaran & Keskin (2009) that an integrated production, inventory, distribution, and routing system led to a 10% decrease in logistics costs in Frito-Lay. Other quantitative studies on the value of integrated decisions can be found in Chandra & Fisher (1994), Stålhane, Andersson, Christiansen & Fagerholt, K. (2014), Archetti & Speranza (2016), and Côté, Guastaroba & Speranza (2017).

The inventory routing problem (IRP) is one of the integrated problems which requires the combined optimization of the inventory, distribution, and routing problems to minimize the total cost. The production routing problem (PRP) is a generalized version of the IRP in which the production decisions are also taken into account. The practical applications of the PRP can be especially seen in vendor-

managed inventory (VMI) systems. In a VMI system, the supplier manages inventory levels of the retailers, and makes replenishment decisions for each retailer. The ability to determine the time and size of all deliveries allows the supplier to combine the retailer orders efficiently. Moreover, the retailers benefit by being free from the inventory control process. The PRP integrates two difficult well-known problems, the lot-sizing problem (LSP) and the vehicle routing problem (VRP), which makes the problem very challenging (Adulyasak, Cordeau & Jans, 2015a).

1.2 Research Objectives

The purpose of this thesis is twofold. The first objective is to study an important consistency concept within the PRP to improve the service quality in VMI systems. The second one is to integrate the transshipment concept into the PRP to reduce the overall system cost.

Regarding the first research objective, although VMI policies tend to benefit both the vendor and the retailers, solving PRPs by aiming only cost minimization may not provide satisfactory results to both parties. To remain competitive, companies also need to take into consideration the service quality level, because high service quality establishes a bond between the retailer and the supplier. By this way, companies ensure the customer loyalty which leads to recurring revenues (Kovacs, Golden, Hartl & Parragh, 2014). In this respect, the consistency issues have been studied in the periodic vehicle routing problem (Kovacs et al., 2014) and in the IRP (Coelho, Cordeau & Laporte, 2012a; Coelho & Laporte, 2013) to reflect some service quality standards. These are mainly associated with the quantity and the frequency of the deliveries, fleet size, and vehicle load.

Among the consistency concepts, visit spacing policy (VSP) is especially important to provide higher quality service to the retailers. In the VSP implementation, visit times of the retailers are regulated by imposing a minimum and a maximum time interval between two consecutive visits to the same retailer. Thereby, possible inconveniences stemming from the visit time irregularities both to the retailer and to the supplier are

prevented. This policy not only yields smoother operations by distributing the visits evenly over the planning horizon, but it also leads to the quantity consistency on deliveries. As indicated in Coelho et al. (2012a), the quantity of delivery is especially important for the customers. By imposing the minimum time constraint, frequent visits that lead to too small deliveries are prevented. On the other hand, the maximum time constraint prohibits long time intervals between consecutive visits, thereby preventing too large deliveries. The frequent deliveries take a lot of time and lead to inconveniences to the customers while too large deliveries may create congestion in the warehouse. A case study about the effect of the service consistency in a VMI system can be found in Day, Wright, Schoenherr, Venkataramanan & Gaudette (2009). The authors investigate the inventory replenishment problem of a company that provides carbon dioxide gas for carbonated soft drinks to restaurants, hospitals, chemical manufacturers, and various other businesses. Due to increased competition, the company wants to distinguish itself by a superior customer service. This is achieved by ensuring regularity on delivery times to the customers and by improving driver-customer familiarity. The VSP has been studied in the periodic VRP (Christofides & Beasley, 1984; Francis, Smilowitz & Tzur, 2008) and in the IRP (Coelho et al., 2012a) but it has not yet been considered in the PRP.

In this thesis, we address the PRP with the visit spacing policy (PRP-VSP) for the first time. Initially, two mixed integer programming (MIP) models are formulated for the PRP-VSP. Since the models can only solve small size problems, a matheuristic algorithm (MA) is developed for solving the PRP-VSP. The proposed MA is implemented in a multi-start scheme in which an MIP-based local search procedure is iteratively applied. The proposed algorithm is applied to a set of randomly generated PRP-VSP instances. The results indicate that the developed approach can produce high quality solutions to the PRP-VSP in reasonable computation times. Additionally, we perform a numerical investigation to observe the effect of the VSP on the overall system cost.

In order to achieve our second objective, we extend the standard PRP by considering transshipments. In this case, in addition to the regular deliveries,

transshipments between retailers or between the supplier and a retailer can be made. These transshipments are performed by a subcontractor. Transshipments provide benefits both in deterministic and stochastic environments. In stochastic environments, transshipments between retailers belonging to the same chain make the unexpected demand variation problem easier to overcome (Axsäter, 1990; Dada, 1992; Lee, 1987; Nonås & Jörnsten, 2007). In deterministic environments, transshipments are made at predetermined moments in time to redistribute stock among the retailers to reduce the inventory holding costs. These type of transshipments are especially beneficial in the retail sector because the inventory holding costs are often dominant in that environment (Paterson, Kiesmüller, Teunter & Glazebrook, 2011). Moreover, deterministic subproblems can arise when solving a stochastic IRP/PRP in a rolling horizon framework in which demand forecasts for the next time periods are utilized as approximations of the unknown demand. A case study on an inventory-routing system used by a supermarket chain was presented in Mercer & Tao (1996). In the inventory routing system, deliveries are made from a factory to warehouses, and lateral transshipments can occur between warehouses. The results indicate that transshipments lower the number of sales lost. To the best of our knowledge, the concept of transshipments has been studied in the IRP (Coelho, Cordeau & Laporte, 2012b, 2014; Lefever, Aghezzaf, Hadj-Hamou & Penz, 2018), but it has not yet been considered in the PRP.

In this thesis, we introduce, and study, the PRP with transshipments (PRPT). Initially, an MIP model is formulated for the PRPT. Since the model can only solve small-size problems, a mathematical programming heuristic (MPH) is proposed to solve the problem. The performance of our MPH is compared with a general-purpose commercial solver. The results indicate that the developed approach can produce high-quality solutions to the PRPT in reasonable computation times. Moreover, we perform another numerical investigation to reveal the effect of the transshipments on the overall cost. The results show the benefits of allowing transshipments.

1.3 Outline of the Thesis

The rest of this thesis involves five chapters, and is organized as follows;

In Chapter 2, the classical PRP is explained in detail. Initially, formal problem description is given along with the MIP formulation of the problem. Next, the related literature of the PRP is presented. Finally, research gaps related to the PRP are stressed.

Chapter 3 introduces our study on the PRP-VSP with a single vehicle. Initially, the developed MIP formulations are presented. Next, the details of the proposed MA are given, and finally the computational results are presented.

In Chapter 4, we extend our work presented in Chapter 3 by considering multiple vehicles in the PRP-VSP. After giving the MIP formulations, the variants of MA proposed for the multi-vehicle version of the PRP-VSP are given. Next, the computational results obtained for the multi-vehicle problems are presented.

Chapter 5 presents our study on the PRPT. Initially, the MIP formulation of the PRPT is provided. After that, the details of the developed MPH and the computational results are successively given.

Finally, Chapter 6 summarizes the thesis and provides directions for future research.

CHAPTER TWO

THE PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEM

2.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the production routing problem (PRP) is explained and a review of the related literature is given. The chapter is organized as follows. In the next section, a formal problem description and a mixed integer programming (MIP) formulation are provided for the PRP. Next, we present a literature review for the problem. Finally, Section 2.5 summarizes the context of the chapter.

2.2 The Production Routing Problem

In this section, we initially give information about the integrated supply chain problems related with the PRP. Figure 2.1 presents the categories of integrated production-distribution problems with a discretized planning horizon. As seen from the figure, the lot-sizing problem (LSP) involves the decisions of production quantity, schedule, and inventory quantity. The integrated LSP with direct shipment (ILSPDR) (see Federgruen & Tzur, 1999; Jin & Muriel, 2009) takes into account the transportation of the products to the customers. The transportation costs of the products to the customers are assumed to be a fixed cost. The production, setup, inventory, and direct shipment costs are minimized over the planning horizon.

When the routing decisions are included and the production decisions are omitted, the ILSPDR transformed into the inventory routing problem (IRP) (see Andersson, Hoff, Christiansen, Hasle & Løkketangen, 2010; Coelho, Cordeau & Laporte, 2013). The classical IRP consists of a central distribution center, a production plant, and a set of retailers. Both the production plant and the retailers have their own warehouses. An inventory holding cost is incurred in every planning period for each unit of the product stored at the warehouses. In each period of the planning horizon, the demand for the product at each retailer must be satisfied. The production quantity which is ready at the beginning of each planning period is assumed to be known in advance. For the

transportation of products, there exist a limited number of capacitated vehicles available at the beginning of each planning period. The aim of the IRP is to determine the quantities and schedules of the products to be delivered to the retailers as well as the set of vehicle routes that minimize the total cost which consists of the inventory holding costs and transportation costs.

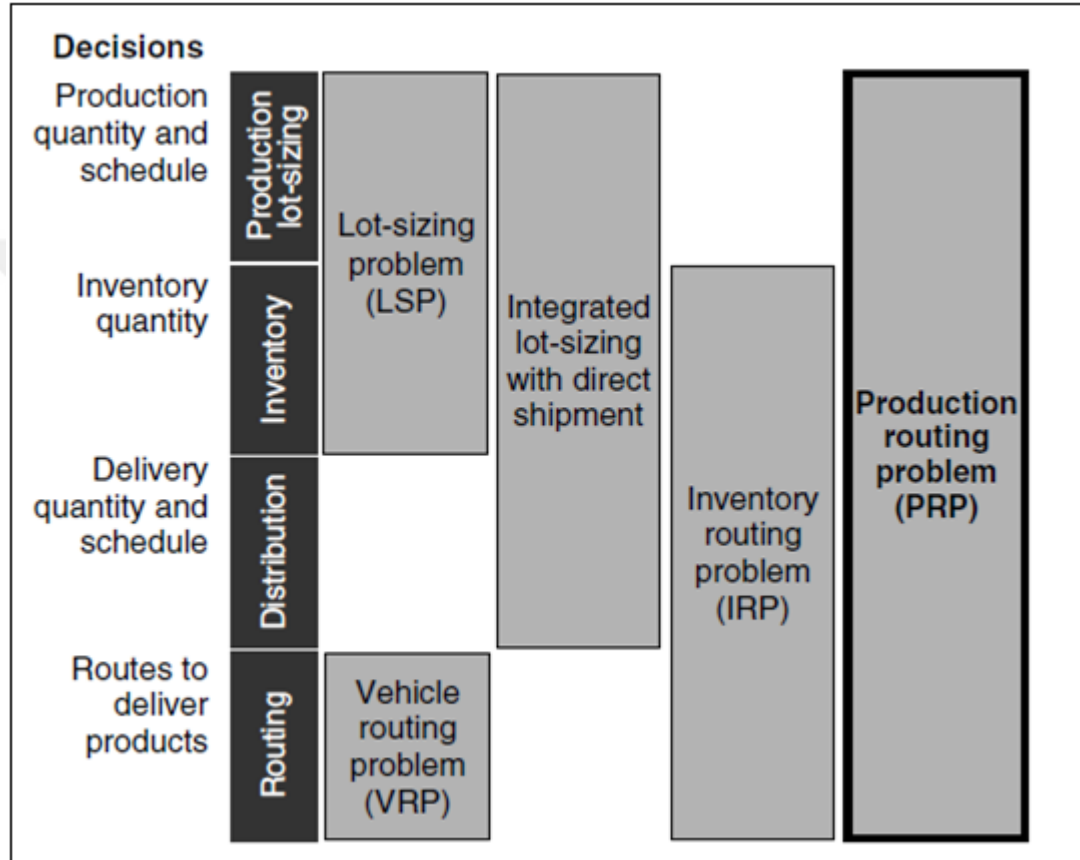


Figure 2.1 Supply chain planning problems (Adulyasak, Cordeau & Jans, 2014a)

The PRP is a generalized version of the IRP, where the production decisions are also taken into account. At the beginning of each planning period, the production plant must decide whether or not production is executed and determine the corresponding lot-size. If production is executed, a fixed setup cost and unit production costs are incurred. Moreover, the lot-size cannot exceed the production capacity. In the next section, we provide the problem description and a formulation of the standard PRP which is comprised of a network of a single product, a single production plant, and multiple retailers.

2.3 Mathematical Formulation for the PRP

The PRP is defined on a complete graph $G = (N, A)$, where $N = \{0, \dots, n\}$ is the node set and $A = \{(i, j) : i, j \in N, i \neq j\}$ is the arc set. Node 0 represents the production plant, while the other nodes denote retailers. The plant manufactures a single product which is sold by the retailers along a planning horizon $T = \{1, \dots, H\}$. There is a set $K = \{1, \dots, m\}$ of homogeneous vehicles available for transportation at the beginning of each time period. The relevant notation for the model is given as follows:

Sets

N^r : set of all retailers $\{1, \dots, n\}$

N : set of all nodes $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$

T : set of time periods $\{1, \dots, H\}$

K : set of identical vehicles $\{1, \dots, m\}$

Parameters

u : unit production cost

f : production setup cost

C : production capacity

Q : capacity of a vehicle

h_i : unit inventory holding cost at node i

L_i : maximum inventory level at node i

I_{i0} : initial inventory level at node i

d_{it} : demand at retailer i in period t

c_{ij} : transportation cost from node i to node j

$$M_t : \min \{C, \sum_{l=t}^H \sum_{i \in N^r} d_{il}\}$$

$$\bar{M}_{it} : \min \{L_i, Q, \sum_{l=t}^H d_{il}\}$$

Decision Variables

p_t : production quantity in period t

$y_t : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if there is production at the plant in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

I_{it} : inventory level at node i at the end of period t

$x_{ijtk} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vehicle } k \text{ travels directly from node } i \text{ to node } j \text{ in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

q_{itk} : quantity delivered to retailer i in period t by vehicle k

$z_{itk} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if retailer } i \text{ is visited in period } t \text{ by vehicle } k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$z_{0tk} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vehicle } k \text{ is dispatched in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

The PRP can be formulated as follows:

$$\text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it} + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} c_{ij} \cdot x_{ijtk}) \quad (2.1)$$

subject to

$$I_{0t-1} + p_t = \sum_{i \in N^r} \sum_{k \in K} q_{itk} + I_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (2.2)$$

$$I_{it-1} + \sum_{k \in K} q_{itk} = d_{it} + I_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (2.3)$$

$$p_t \leq M_t \cdot y_t, \forall t \in T \quad (2.4)$$

$$I_{0t} \leq L_0, \forall t \in T \quad (2.5)$$

$$I_{it-1} + \sum_{k \in K} q_{itk} \leq L_i, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (2.6)$$

$$q_{itk} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot z_{itk}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (2.7)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} z_{itk} \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (2.8)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{jtk} = \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijtk}, \forall k \in K, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (2.9)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijtk} = z_{itk}, \forall k \in K, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (2.10)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N^r} q_{itk} \leq Q_k \cdot z_{0tk}, \forall k \in K, \forall t \in T \quad (2.11)$$

$$\sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S} x_{ijk} \leq \sum_{i \in S} z_{itk} - z_{etk}, \forall k \in K, \forall t \in T, \forall S \subseteq N^r : |S| \geq 2, \forall e \in S \quad (2.12)$$

$$p_t, I_{it}, q_{itk} \geq 0, \forall i \in N, \forall k \in K, \forall t \in T \quad (2.13)$$

$$x_{ijk}, y_t, z_{itk} \in \{0,1\}, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in N, \forall k \in K, \forall t \in T \quad (2.14)$$

The objective function (2.1) minimizes the total production, setup, inventory, and routing costs. Constraint sets (2.2) – (2.6) represent the lot-sizing part of the problem. Constraint sets (2.2) and (2.3) are the inventory flow balance at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (2.4) comprises the setup forcing and production capacity constraints. The constraints force the setup variable to be one if production takes place in a given period and limit the production quantity to the minimum value between the production capacity and the total demand in the remaining periods. Constraint sets (2.5) and (2.6) limit the maximum inventory at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (2.7) allows a positive delivery quantity only if retailer i is visited in period t . The delivered quantity q_{itk} is limited by $\bar{M}_{it}$, which is the minimum of the retailer inventory capacity L_i , vehicle capacity Q_k , and total demand of retailer i in periods from t to H . Constraint set (2.8) imposes that each retailer can be visited by at most one vehicle. Constraint sets (2.9) and (2.10) are the vehicle flow conservation constraints. Constraint set (2.11) imposes the vehicle capacity on each vehicle. Constraint set (2.12) constitutes the subtour elimination constraints similar to those of the traveling salesman problem (TSP) and constraints (2.13) and (2.14) define the nature of the decision variables.

2.4 Literature Review

The PRP has not received much attention from the researchers due to its difficulty. However, in recent years, there has been a growing interest to the problem owing to the advantages of integrating the production and logistics decision problems. A comprehensive review of the papers related to the PRP can be found in Adulyasak et al. (2015a).

In Table 2.1, the solution algorithms developed for the PRP are given according to the classification made in Adulyasak et al. (2015a). The related works on the PRP can be categorized according to the problem characteristics and solution methods.

Regarding the production aspect, the number of plants and products and the production capacity of plants are considered as different problem characteristics of the PRP in the literature. As for the inventory aspect, there are two different inventory policies considered in the related papers. The first policy, called order-up-to level (OU), dictates that the amount of delivery to a visited retailer must increase its inventory level up to a predetermined stock level. In the second policy, called maximum level (ML), the delivery quantity to a retailer may be any positive value which does not make its inventory level bigger than the maximum stock level. Also, the structure of the vehicle fleet, the number of vehicles, and the vehicle capacities are the attributes that characterize the distribution characteristics in the related studies.

When the solution methods proposed for the PRP are analyzed, it is observed that many of them introduce heuristic solution approaches because of the complexity of the problem. The PRP was first introduced in Chandra (1993) and Chandra & Fisher (1994). In these papers, the PRP is decomposed into the capacitated lot-sizing and the distribution scheduling problem. The capacitated lot-sizing problem is solved by using the Silver-Meal algorithm (Silver & Meal, 1973) and the obtained results are used as inputs for the distribution scheduling problem which is solved by a simple heuristic algorithm. Another decomposition based heuristic solution approach was proposed by Lei, Liu, Ruszczyński & Park (2006). In this study, the authors considered the PRP with multiple production plants and heterogeneous fleet of vehicles. A two-phase heuristic solution approach was developed for the problem. In the first phase, a restricted mixed-integer linear model of the problem in which the routing constraints are excluded is solved. In the second phase, a routing heuristic is implemented to obtain the vehicle routes for each planning period.

Table 2.1 Classification of the papers on the PRP (Adapted from Adulyasak et al. (2015a))

Author(s)	Problem characteristics								Solution method	
	Production			Inventory		Distribution				
	N.Plants	Product	Cap.	Policy	Cap.	Fleet	N.Vehs	Cap.	Type	Approach
Chandra (1993)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML		Hom.	Unlimited	✓	H	Decomposition
Chandra & Fisher (1994)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML		Hom.	Unlimited	✓	H	Decomposition
Fumero & Vercellis (1999)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML		Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Lagrangian relaxation
Lei et al. (2006)	Multiple	Single	✓	ML	✓	Het.	Limited	✓	H	Decomposition
Boudia et al. (2007)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	GRASP
Boudia et al. (2008)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Decomposition
Boudia & Prins (2009)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Memetic
Bard & Nananukul (2009a)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Tabu search
Solyalı & Süral (2009)	Single	Single		OU	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Lagrangian relaxation
Bard & Nananukul (2009b, 2010)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Branch-and-price
Ruokokoski et al. (2010)	Single	Single		ML		Hom.	Single		E	Branch-and-cut
Armentano et al. (2011)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	Tabu search
Archetti et al. (2011)	Single	Single		ML/OU	✓	Hom.	Single	✓	E/H	Branch-and-cut/MIP Heuristic
Adulyasak et al. (2014a)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	ALNS
Adulyasak et al. (2014b)	Single	Single	✓	ML/OU	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	E/H	Branch-and-cut/ALNS
Absi et al. (2015)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	Iterative MIP heuristic
Adulyasak et al. (2015b)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	E	Benders-based branch-and-cut
Brahimi & Aouam (2016)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Single	✓	H	Relax and Fix
Kumar et al. (2015)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	PSO
Qiu et al. (2016)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Single	✓	H	Branch-and-price
Zhang et al. (2017)	Multiple	Multiple	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Limited	✓	H	MIP-based heuristic
Solyalı & Süral (2017)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	MIP-based heuristic
Agra et al. (2018)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	SAA heuristic
Russell (2017)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	MIP-based heuristic
Qiu, Ni et al. (2018)	Multiple	Single	✓	ML	✓	Het.	Multiple	✓	E	Branch-and-cut guided search
Qiu, Wang et al. (2018)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	VNS
Miranda et al. (2018)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML		Het.	Multiple	✓	H	Decomposition
Darvish et al. (2018)	Single	Single		ML	✓	Hom.	Single	✓	E	Branch-and-cut
Li et al. (2019)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	MIP-based heuristic
Chitsaz et al. (2019)	Single	Single	✓	ML	✓	Hom.	Multiple	✓	H	Decomposition Matheuristic
Neves-Moreira et al. (2019)	Single	Multiple	✓	ML	✓	Het.	Multiple	✓	H	Matheuristic

Notes. Hom., homogeneous, Het., heterogeneous, E, exact, H, heuristic

Boudia, Louly & Prins (2008) developed two greedy heuristic solution approaches which are supplemented with local search procedures. In the first heuristic, called uncoupled approach, the production plan and the distribution plan are determined separately. In the second approach, which is a decomposition heuristic, two problems are solved simultaneously. The computational results indicate the superiority of the second algorithm in terms of the solution quality. Solyalı & Süral (2009) proposed a lagrangian relaxation based solution approach to solve the PRP with OU policy. Brahimi & Auoam (2016) studied the PRP with backordering which corresponds to a stockout situation where customer demand in a given period is satisfied from production/delivery of subsequent periods. A relax and fix heuristic combined with a local search process is suggested for the problem. Agra, Requejo & Rodrigues (2018) considered a PRP where the demand is uncertain and allowed to be backlogged. The authors suggested a sample average approximation (SAA) heuristic to solve the problem.

Metaheuristic solution approaches have been widely applied to the PRP. Boudia, Louly & Prins (2007) proposed a heuristic algorithm based on greedy randomized adaptive search procedure (GRASP) for the PRP. In the proposed approach, an initial solution is constructed by sequentially solving the production and delivery problems. After constructing the initial solution, 3-opt, inserting and swapping operations are applied in the local search phase. Additionally, a path relinking procedure is implemented to further improve the solution. Boudia & Prins (2009) developed a memetic algorithm for the PRP. In this study, the initial population is generated by using a heuristic procedure. In this procedure, the produced amount of goods at each period is initially set to the total demand. After that, the saving heuristic (Clarke & Wright, 1964) is applied to obtain the vehicle routes and the Wagner-Whitin algorithm (Wagner & Whitin, 1958) is implemented to calibrate the production plan. Then, a crossover mechanism is used to create new offsprings. After this process, the local search phase of Boudia et al. (2007) is adopted to improve the new chromosomes. Bard & Nananukul (2009a) developed a tabu search (TS) based heuristic solution approach in which a reactive tabu list is employed. In the proposed algorithm, an initial solution is created by solving the restricted PRP in which the routing constraints are dropped.

Then, the vehicle routes are constructed by using a TS based algorithm. A local search procedure consisting of swap and transfer moves is implemented to improve the obtained solutions. Another TS based algorithm was suggested by Armentano, Shiguemoto & Løkketangen (2011). In their study, Wagner-Whitin and the saving algorithms are sequentially used for the construction of the initial solution. After that, a local search procedure consisting of the transfer move is applied. Furthermore, a path relinking procedure is used for diversification. Adulyasak, Cordeau & Jans (2014a) developed an adaptive large neighborhood search (ALNS) (Ropke & Pisinger, 2006) algorithm for the PRP. In their algorithm, an enumeration scheme in which the production and distribution problems are solved is applied to obtain different initial solutions. After that, two types of operators, called selection and transformation, are implemented to the created solutions in sequence and the minimum cost flow problem is solved to determine the production, inventory and delivery decisions. A multi-objective version of the PRP with time windows constraints was studied by Kumar et al. (2016). In the study, not only the total operation cost but also the carbon emissions are taken into account in the objective function. A self-learning particle swarm optimization (PSO) algorithm is suggested for the solution of the problem. Qiu, Wang, Xu, Fang & Pardalos (2018) proposed a variable neighborhood search (VNS) algorithm to solve the PRP. In the solution method, the delivery and routing decisions are handled by local search methods based on skewed general VNS and guided variable neighborhood descent, respectively.

In addition to the metaheuristic algorithms, some heuristic methods combined with exact solution approaches are developed for the PRP. A lagrangian relaxation based approach for the PRP is proposed by Fumero & Vercellis (1999). The authors considered the PRP with multiple products, maximum level policy, and unit transportation costs. The PRP is decoupled into the LSP and the VRP subproblems and the vehicle capacity constraints and the plant inventory constraints are dualized. MIP based heuristic methods are presented by Archetti, Bertazzi, Paletta & Speranza (2011), Absi, Archetti, Dauzère-Pérès & Feillet (2015), Solyalı & Süral (2017), and Russell (2017) for the PRP. Archetti et al. (2011) proposed a heuristic algorithm to solve the decomposed lot-sizing and inventory routing subproblems. In their study, the

lot-sizing problem is optimized by using MIP commercial solver and the inventory routing subproblem is solved by a remove-insert heuristic procedure. Absi et al. (2015) developed an iterative MIP heuristic for the PRP. In the developed heuristic, the production planning subproblem, where the transportation costs are assumed to be fixed costs, is initially solved by a commercial MIP solver. Then, the vehicle routes are determined by using the saving algorithm according to the production decisions. After that, the fixed transportation costs are updated according to the information received from routing subproblem and the production planning problem is solved again.

Solyalı & Süral (2017) developed a five-phase heuristic for the PRP. In the first phase of the heuristic, a traveling salesman problem (TSP) over all nodes is solved. The second phase is to solve a restricted PRP formulation in which the fixed sequence of nodes obtained in the first phase is imposed. In the third phase, the vehicle routes of the solution obtained from the second phase are updated. The fourth phase is to solve another restricted formulation of the PRP where the routes found in the third phase is dictated but insertion and removal of nodes from these routes are allowed. Finally, using the solution obtained in the fourth phase, the routes of vehicles are determined in the fifth phase by solving a TSP for each vehicle in each period. Russell (2017) proposed two mathematical programming based heuristics for the PRP. One of the heuristics employs set partitioning and other heuristic uses the concept of seed routes to determine an approximate solution.

Branch-and-price based heuristic algorithms were proposed in Bard & Nananukul (2009b) and Bard & Nananukul (2010) for the PRP. Qiu, Qiao & Pardalos (2016) presented a pollution PRP with carbon cap-and-trade, which incorporates carbon emissions into production, inventory, and routing decisions. A branch-and-price based heuristic was suggested to solve the problem. Another study that considers the carbon emissions in production and inventory routing problems were presented in Darvish, Archetti & Coelho (2018). In this study, the effect of operational decisions on costs and emissions are compared. Moreover, a branch-and-cut based exact algorithm is developed to solve the emission minimization problem. Zhang, Sundaramoorthy,

Grossmann & Pinto (2017) introduced the multiscale PRP which involves multiple commodities and continuous production. In their study, the authors proposed a mixed integer formulation for the problem. Moreover, an iterative heuristic method in which an MIP model with a restricted set of candidate routes are solved at each iteration and the set of candidate routes are updated for the next iteration. Miranda, Cordeau, Ferreira, Jans & Morabito (2018) introduced a rich PRP motivated from a furniture manufacturer. The problem considers several important features, such as multiple products, sequence-dependent setup times, and heterogeneous fleet of vehicles. A decomposition heuristic was developed to solve the problem. Li, Chu, Chu & Zhu (2019) presented a multi-product PRP with outsourcing options. An MIP model and a three level heuristic were developed for the problem. Chitsaz, Cordeau & Jans (2019) introduced the assembly routing problem, which integrates the production planning with the inbound vehicle routing. A three-phase decomposition matheuristic was proposed to solve the problem. The algorithm is flexible and it was also applied to the PRP and the IRP. Neves-Moreira, Almada-Lobo, Cordeau, Guimarães & Jans (2019) addressed a multi-product PRP inspired by the supply chain of a meat producer. The introduced problem involves several real-life features such as product family setups, perishable products, and delivery time windows. A three-phase methodology to tackle the problem.

The first exact algorithm for the PRP was presented by Ruokokoski, Solyalı, Cordeau, Jans & Süral (2010). In their study, The PRP is considered with an uncapacitated plant and a single vehicle. The authors developed a branch-and-cut algorithm to solve the problem. Another branch-and-cut algorithm for the PRP was developed in Archetti et al. (2011). The PRP with multiple vehicles was first tackled by an exact algorithm in Adulyasak, Cordeau & Jans (2014b). The authors compared the performances of two different formulations. The first developed formulation involves vehicle indexes while the second one does not. The computational results indicated the superiority of the formulation with vehicle indexes. The same authors proposed a Benders decomposition based branch-and-cut algorithm for the PRP with demand uncertainty (Adulyasak, Cordeau & Jans, 2015b). Qiu, Ni et al. (2018) introduced the PRP with reverse logistics and remanufacturing. An MIP model with

valid inequalities and a branch-and-cut guided search algorithm were proposed to solve the problem.

2.5 Chapter Summary

In this chapter, we explained the PRP in detail. Moreover, a literature review was presented for the problem. When the related literature is analyzed, it is seen that there is no study that considers the service consistency concepts in the PRP. Moreover, it is observed that the concept of transshipments has not yet been integrated within the PRP. Considering the unfulfilled research potential in this area, the purpose of this thesis is to study these two important concepts within the PRP.

CHAPTER THREE

SINGLE VEHICLE PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEM WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents our first study on the production routing problem with visit spacing policy (PRP-VSP). The chapter is organized as follows. In Section 3.2, the problem definition of the PRP-VSP and the developed MIP formulations are given. In Section 3.3, our matheuristic algorithm (MA) which is proposed for the PRP-VSP is explained in detail. The computational results are given in Section 3.4. Finally, the chapter is summarized in Section 3.5.

3.2 Problem Description and Formulations

The network of the PRP-VSP is defined on a graph $G = (N, A)$, where $N = \{0, \dots, n\}$ represents the set of nodes and $A = \{(i, j) : i, j \in N, i \neq j\}$ represents the set of arcs. Node 0 represents a production plant, while the other nodes denote retailers. The plant manufactures a single product which is sold by the retailers along a planning horizon $T = \{1, \dots, H\}$. Each retailer i has a known demand d_{it} for each time period t and a storage area with a limited capacity L_i . An inventory holding cost h_i is incurred at node i for the time periods in which products are stored in the node. The production plant must decide in each period whether or not to make the product and determine the corresponding lot size. If production does take place, a fixed setup cost f is resulted along with a unit production cost u that is incurred for each produced unit. Additionally, the lot size cannot exceed the production capacity C . The distribution of the products to the retailers is made by a vehicle with a limited capacity Q . A transportation cost c_{ij} is defined for each node pair (i, j) . The vehicle can perform at most one route in each time period, and the vehicle routes starts and ends at the production plant. Each retailer can be visited at most once in a route. Delivered quantities for each retailer are determined in accordance with the maximum level policy. At the beginning of the planning horizon, an initial inventory I_{i0} is available at

each node i . For each retailer i , the visiting sequence is arranged considering the minimum and maximum number of time periods, min_i and max_i , allowed between the consecutive visits made to the retailer i one after the other. The aim of the considered PRP-VSP is to combine the decisions of production, inventory, and routing operations that minimize the total cost with respect to the stated constraints.

The first mathematical model presented here is based on the PRP formulation developed in Boudia et al. (2007) and the periodic VRP formulation introduced in Cordeau, Gendreau & Laporte (1997). In this formulation, we initially generated all possible visit combinations for all retailers and these visit combinations are used as an input in the model. Table 3.1 depicts the generation of visit combinations for a retailer over seven periods. In this example, the maximum and initial inventory levels of the retailer are respectively set to 40 and 36. Besides, the minimum and maximum time periods between the consecutive visits are determined as one and two, respectively. Considering the demand quantities given in the table, it can be inferred that the latest time period for the first visit to the retailer must be set to three. By utilizing these inputs, all possible visit combinations for the corresponding retailer are generated and represented in Table 3.1. In the table, each visit combination is sketched in a column consisting of binary values for each time period. Each binary value indicates either the retailer is visited at the time period or not. For example, if the first visit combination is selected for the retailer, it will be visited on periods 1, 3, 5, and 7, respectively. Moreover, in the last row of the table, the feasibility condition of each generated visit combination with respect to the specified maximum inventory level is depicted. The sequence of operations performed at any delivery location in each time period is the following: first the product is delivered, then the demand is satisfied, and the final inventory level is calculated. The inventory level of a retailer before the consumption must be less than or equal to the maximum level. Accordingly, in the sketched example, visit combinations 5, 8, and 10 are infeasible. In visit combinations 5 and 10 (resp. visit combination 8), the inventory level at the end of period 3 (resp. period 1) can be up to 22 (resp. 20). The fact that the total quantity of demands in periods 4 and 5 (resp. in periods 2 and 3) exceeds 22 (resp. 20) makes visit combinations 5 and 10

(resp. visit combination 8) infeasible. Hence, we disregard the infeasible visit combinations in our formulation.

Table 3.1 An example for the visit combination generation

Period	Demand	Alternative Visit Combinations											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	20	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	13	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
3	18	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	8	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
5	19	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
6	6	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
7	11	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Condition		F	F	F	F	I	F	F	I	F	I	F	F

Notes. F, Feasible, I, Infeasible

The relevant notation for the model is summarized as follows:

Sets

N^r : set of all retailers $\{1, \dots, n\}$

N : set of all nodes $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$

R : set of all visit combinations for all retailers

R_i : set of visit combinations for retailer $i \in N^r$

T : set of time periods $\{1, \dots, H\}$

Parameters

u : unit production cost

f : production setup cost

C : production capacity

Q : capacity of the vehicle

h_i : unit inventory holding cost at node i

L_i : maximum or target inventory level at node i

$\min_i$: minimum number of periods between the consecutive visits of retailer i

$\max_i$: maximum number of periods between the consecutive visits of retailer i

f_{v_i} : latest time period for the first visit to retailer i

I_{i0} : initial inventory level at node i

d_{it} : demand at retailer i in period t

c_{ij} : transportation cost from node i to node j

$$a_{rt} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if period } t \text{ belongs to visit combination } r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

M_t : $\min\{C, \sum_{l=t}^H \sum_{i \in N'} d_{il}\}$, maximum quantity that can be produced in period t

TD_{it} : $\min\{H, t + \max_i\}$, the latest possible time period before the next visit to retailer i after it is visited in period t

$$DD_{it} = \sum_{j=t}^{TD_{it}} d_{ij}, \text{ total demand in the periods between } t \text{ and } TD_{it}$$

$$\bar{M}_{it} : \min\{L_i, Q, DD_{it}\}$$

Decision Variables

p_t : production quantity in period t

$$y_t : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if there is production at the plant in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

I_{it} : inventory level at node i at the end of period t

$$x_{ijt} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the vehicle travels directly from node } i \text{ to node } j \text{ in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

q_{it} : quantity delivered to retailer i in period t by the vehicle

$$z_{it} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if retailer } i \text{ is visited in period } t \text{ by the vehicle} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$z_{0t} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the vehicle is dispatched in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$s_{ir} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if visit combination } r \in R_i \text{ is assigned to retailer } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The first PRP-VSP model (*Model 1*) can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Model 1}) \text{ Min } Z &= \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} c_{ij} \cdot x_{ijt}) \\ &\text{subject to} \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

$$I_{0t-1} + p_t = \sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} + I_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (3.2)$$

$$I_{it-1} + q_{it} = d_{it} + I_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.3)$$

$$p_t \leq M_t \cdot y_t, \forall t \in T \quad (3.4)$$

$$I_{0t} \leq L_0, \forall t \in T \quad (3.5)$$

$$I_{it-1} + q_{it} \leq L_i, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.6)$$

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot z_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.7)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{jit} = \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijt}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (3.8)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijt} = z_{it}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (3.9)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} \leq Q \cdot z_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (3.10)$$

$$\sum_{r \in R_i} s_{ir} = 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (3.11)$$

$$z_{it} - \sum_{r \in R_i} a_{rt} \cdot s_{ir} = 0, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.12)$$

$$\sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S} x_{ijt} \leq \sum_{i \in S} z_{it} - z_{et}, \forall t \in T, \forall S \subseteq N^r : |S| \geq 2, \forall e \in S \quad (3.13)$$

$$p_t, I_{it}, q_{it} \geq 0, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (3.14)$$

$$x_{ijt}, s_{ir}, y_t, z_{it} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in N, \forall r \in R, \forall t \in T \quad (3.15)$$

The objective function (3.1) minimizes the total production, setup, inventory, and routing costs. Constraint sets (3.2) - (3.6) represent the lot-sizing part of the problem. Constraint sets (3.2) and (3.3) are the inventory flow balance at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (3.4) comprises the setup forcing and production capacity constraints. The constraints force the setup variable to be one if production takes place in a given period and limit the production quantity to the minimum value between the production capacity and the total demand in the remaining periods. Constraint sets (3.5) and (3.6) limit the maximum inventory at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (3.7) allows a positive delivery quantity only if retailer i is visited in period t . The delivered quantity q_{it} is limited by $\bar{M}_{it}$, which is the minimum of the retailer inventory capacity L_i , vehicle capacity Q and DD_{it} . Here, DD_{it} stands for the total demand in the periods between t and TD_{it} which is the minimum of the number of time periods and the latest possible time for the next visit to retailer i . Constraint sets (3.8) and (3.9) are the vehicle flow conservation constraints. Constraint set (3.10) imposes the vehicle capacity. Constraint set (3.11) means that one feasible visit

combination must be assigned to each retailer while constraint set (3.12) enforces that each retailer is visited only in the periods corresponding to the assigned combination. In constraint set (3.12), the decision variable z_{it} equals to one if the selected visit combination r for retailer i ($s_{ir} = 1$) covers time period t ($a_{rt} = 1$). Otherwise, it is set to zero. Constraint set (3.13) constitutes the subtour elimination constraints similar to those of the TSP and constraints (3.14) and (3.15) define the nature of the decision variables.

Instead of generating and using all possible visit combinations, the visit spacing constraints can be formulated in an alternative fashion which is utilized in Coelho et al. (2012a) and Hamzadayi, Topaloglu & Kose (2013). In order to make such a change in the formulation, constraint sets (3.16), (3.17), and (3.18) must substitute for constraint sets (3.11) and (3.12).

$$\sum_{m=0}^{min_i} z_{i,t+m} \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r, t = 1, \dots, (H - min_i) \quad (3.16)$$

$$\sum_{m=0}^{max_i} z_{i,t+m} \geq 1, \forall i \in N^r, t = 1, \dots, (H - max_i) \quad (3.17)$$

$$\sum_{m=0}^{fv_i-1} z_{i,m+1} \geq 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (3.18)$$

Constraint set (3.16) ensures that a retailer is not visited before the specified minimum number of periods pass since the last visit. Namely, in a set of times periods from t to $t + min_i$, it is imposed that no more than one visit can be made to the retailer i . Constraint set (3.17) enforces that a retailer should be visited within the specified maximum number of periods since the last visit. In other words, in a set of time periods from t to $t + max_i$, at least one visit must be made to the retailer i . Consequently, the visiting time windows for retailers are formed by Constraint sets (3.16) - (3.17). Finally, constraint set (3.18) ensures that the first visit to a retailer must be performed before the maximum number of periods elapses from the beginning of the planning horizon. With these new constraint sets, our second formulation (*Model 2*) consists of the equations (3.1) - (3.10), (3.13) - (3.15), and (3.16) - (3.18).

3.3 Matheuristic Algorithm (MA)

In this section, our proposed matheuristic algorithm (MA) for the PRP-VSP with single vehicle is introduced. Matheuristic algorithms can be generally defined as algorithms that consist of the integration of metaheuristic techniques with mathematical programming models (Fanjul-Peyro, Perea & Ruiz, 2017). In recent years, there has been a growing interest among researchers in developing matheuristic algorithms for combinatorial optimization problems owing to the advances in exact methods and technology. A recent survey on matheuristics for routing problems can also be found in Archetti & Speranza (2014). Some recent applications of matheuristic algorithms on routing problems can also be found in Bosco, Laganà, Musmanno & Vocaturo (2014), Archetti, C., Corberán, Á., Plana, I., Sanchis, J. M., & Speranza, M. G. (2015), Hemmati, Hvattum, Christiansen & Laporte (2016), Grangier, Gendreau, Lehuédé & Rousseau (2017), and Mancini (2016).

According to the classification made in Archetti & Speranza (2014), developed matheuristics can be divided into three classes: improvement heuristics, column generation based approaches, and decomposition approaches. In the improvement heuristics, mathematical programming models are utilized to improve a solution found by a different heuristic approach. In the column generation based approaches, the column generation phase is terminated prematurely, thus losing the guarantee of optimality. Decomposition based approaches divide the problem into smaller subproblems and some or all of them are solved through mathematical programming. Our solution approach belongs to the class of decomposition based approaches. The developed MA decomposes the main problem into subproblems to reduce the complexity. In MA, while the distribution and routing subproblems are solved heuristically, the lot-sizing, inventory, and delivery quantity decisions are handled by utilizing a mathematical programming formulation.

From a general perspective, the proposed MA can be described as a multi-start heuristic search procedure based on an MIP-based iterative local search procedure. In the proposed algorithm, the construction of an initial solution consists of three stages.

In the first stage, a random visit combination $vc_i \in R_i$ is selected for each retailer i . By this way, the binary s_{ir} and z_{it} variables are fixed. After this stage, two problems which are the production-inventory (*PI*) and routing (*Route*) subproblems are sequentially solved to constitute the whole solution. The *PI* subproblem, which is solved through a standard mathematical programming solver, is used to determine the continuous p_t , I_{it} , and q_{it} variables as well as the binary y_t variables. The solution of *PI* subproblem is obtained by solving a restricted version of *Model 1*, where the routing costs c_{ij} and variables x_{ijt} are not included and the visit combination for each retailer has been already fixed. Finally, the remaining problem is the computation of routes for the vehicle for all time periods. In this stage, we employ an iterated local search (ILS) algorithm to construct the vehicle route for each time period. The utilized ILS is adapted from the second stage of the algorithm introduced in Avci & Topaloglu (2015) to solve the VRP with simultaneous pickup and delivery. Note that in initial solution construction, the *PI* subproblem may be infeasible with respect to the selected visit combinations since the demand of all retailers cannot be met due to capacity constraints. In the developed MA, the initial solution generation procedure is repeated until a feasible solution is obtained.

The local search procedure is developed based on the idea proposed in Archetti, Bertazzi, Hertz & Speranza (2012) and used in Coelho & Laporte (2013) and Solyali & Süral (2017). The procedure consists of two stages. The first stage corresponds to solving another subproblem (*LS*) through a standard mathematical programming solver. The corresponding subproblem is formulated as an MIP where we impose the routes and visit combinations of the current solution but allow unemployed visit combinations to substitute for the current ones. For each unemployed visit combination r of retailer i , we define a parameter λ_{ir} which stands for the approximate transportation cost of replacing the current visit combination, vc_i , of retailer i with visit combination r . Moreover, a tabu list which is used to store the visit combinations of the recently visited solutions is employed in the formulation to avoid cycling. After the restricted formulation is solved and new visit combinations are determined, the routing subproblem, *Route*, is solved to complete the new solution in the second stage of the procedure.

Employing the alternative visit combinations in the local search is especially beneficial to handle the visit spacing constraints. However, in instances with large visit windows and a long planning horizon, a large number of alternative visit combinations can exist for a retailer. Hence, considering all visit combinations in this procedure may increase the computational burden. In order to deal with this issue, we develop a working visit combination set (WVCS) generation mechanism. With this mechanism, for each retailer, the number of alternative visit combinations to be considered at each local search execution is limited to a specified number.

The main steps and the flowchart of MA are provided in Figures 3.1 and 3.2, respectively, where X_{lb} and X_{best} represent the best solution of the current multi-start iteration and the best solution obtained from all multi-start iterations, respectively. The input parameters $maxStart$, $maxIter$, and $maxSub$ represent the total number of multi-start iterations, the maximum number of consecutive local search executions without improvement, and the maximum number of allowed visit combination substitutions for a single local search execution, respectively. At the beginning of each multi-start iteration, the WVCS generation mechanism, *WorkingSets*, is executed and WVCS for each retailer i , WR_i , is formed. In this mechanism, the parameters Ms and Mr are utilized to determine the number of visit combinations to be selected for each retailer.

After an initial solution, X , is constructed, the local search procedure is implemented iteratively. In Algorithm 1, $f(X_{lb})$ and $f(X)$ represent the objective function values of X_{lb} and X , respectively. At the end of each local search execution, if an improved solution is obtained, then the WVCSs are updated and the tabu list, *tabuList*, is initialized. Otherwise, the resulting solution is added to *tabuList* which is specifically employed to store the recently visited unimproved solutions. By utilizing *tabuList* in *LS* subproblem, it is ensured that the procedure does not revisit those unimproved solutions. Because the WVCSs are updated at the end of each successful local search execution, the necessity of storing the tabu solutions that are generated with the previous WVCSs no longer exists. Therefore, *tabuList* is initialized at the end of each successful local search implementation. Each multi-start iteration of MA is

terminated when the value of s becomes bigger than $maxIter$. Note that in the procedure, the LS subproblem may be infeasible with respect to the imposed $tabuList$. Whenever this case happens, the current multi-start iteration is stopped and the algorithm proceeds to the next multi-start iteration. In the following subsections, the PI and LS subproblem formulations and WVCS generation are described, respectively.

Algorithm 1: MA

Input: problem data, $maxStart$, $maxIter$, $maxSub$, Ms , Mr

Output: global best solution, X_{best}

$it \leftarrow 1$;

while $it \leq maxStart$

 determine working visit combination set WR_i for each $i \in N^r$, $WorkingSets(Ms, Mr)$;

 select a visit combination $vc_i \in WR_i$ randomly for each $i \in N^r$;

 solve the production-inventory subproblem, $PI(vc_i)$;

 solve the routing subproblem, $Route(vc_i)$, and complete the initial solution, X ;

 calculate λ_{ir} for each $i \in N^r$ and $r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}$;

 initialize $tabuList$; $s \leftarrow 0$; $X_{lb} \leftarrow X$;

if it is equal to 1

$X_{best} \leftarrow X$;

end if

while $s \leq maxIter$

 solve $LS(X, tabuList, \lambda_{ir}, maxSub)$ subproblem and get vc_i for each $i \in N^r$;

 solve the routing subproblem, $Route(vc_i)$, and complete the new solution, X' ;

$X \leftarrow X'$;

 calculate *new* λ_{ir} values with respect to X ;

if $f(X) \leq f(X_{lb})$

$X_{lb} \leftarrow X$; $s \leftarrow 0$;

 initialize $tabuList$;

 generate new working visit combination sets, $WorkingSets(Ms, Mr)$;

else

$s \leftarrow s + 1$;

 add X to $tabuList$;

end if

end while

if $f(X_{lb}) < f(X_{best})$

$X_{best} \leftarrow X_{lb}$;

end if

$it \leftarrow it + 1$;

end while

Figure 3.1 Main steps of MA

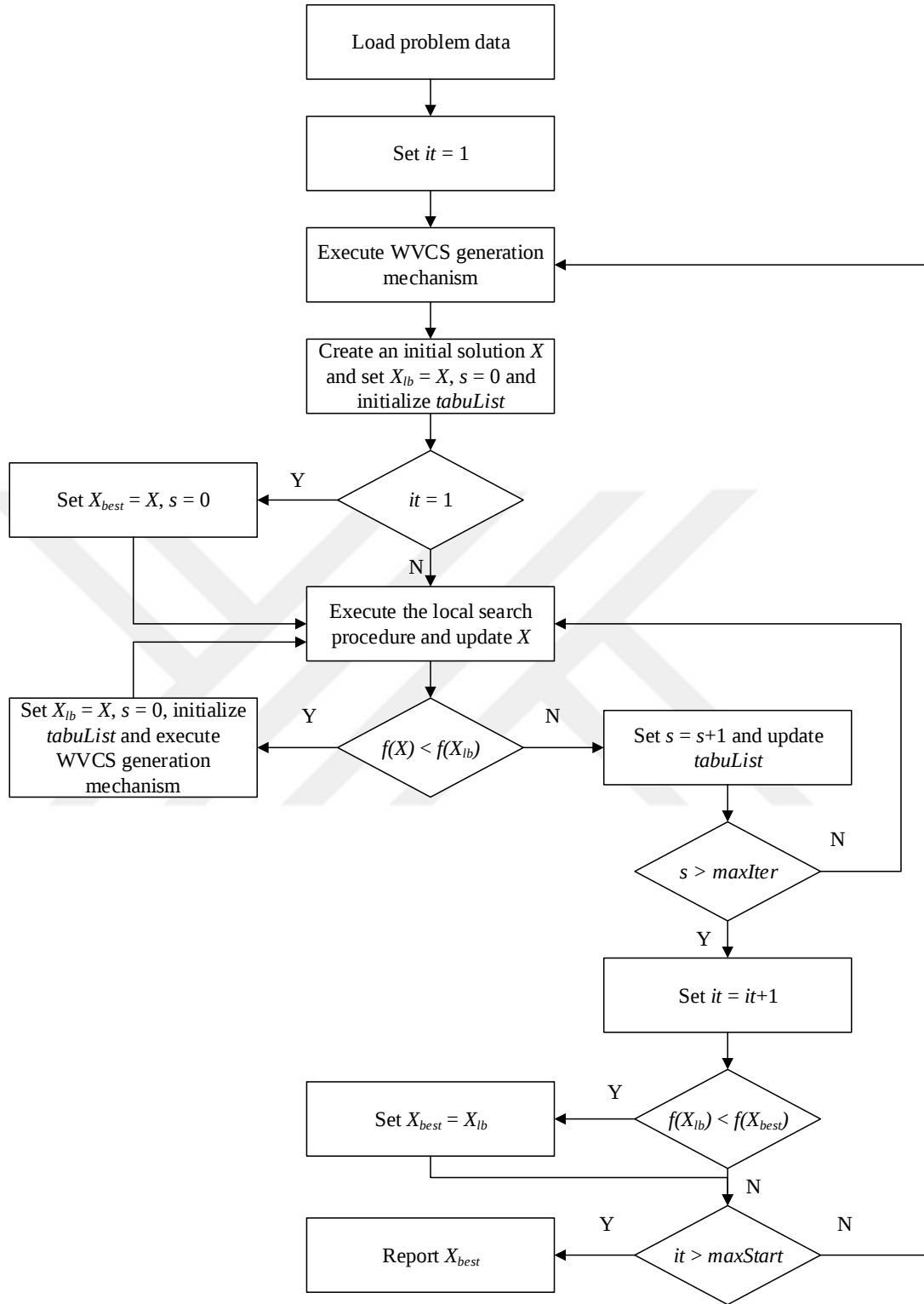


Figure 3.2 Flowchart of MA

3.3.1 A Brief Description of the Utilized Routing Algorithm

In this section, we briefly describe the utilized ILS to solve the routing subproblems in our MA. The utilized ILS algorithm starts with a random initial solution. Then, the random initial solution is improved by a variable neighborhood descent (VND) (Mladenović & Hansen, 1997) based local search mechanism. If the corresponding subproblem is a TSP, only intra-route neighborhood structures are utilized in VND. If the routing subproblem requires more than one vehicle, both inter-route and intra-route neighborhood structures are implemented in the local search. At each iteration of ILS, a perturbation mechanism and the local search procedure are successively applied to obtain an improved solution. Whenever an improved solution is obtained, the current solution is updated. The perturbation mechanism has an adaptive nature and it provides calibrated perturbation moves according to the structure of the search space. The algorithm is finished when the number of successive iterations without an improvement reaches a specified number. In our executions, we terminate the algorithm after 40 failed consecutive iterations. Detailed information on the perturbation mechanism and the neighborhood structures can be found in Avci & Topaloglu (2015).

3.3.2 PI Subproblem Formulation

In this subsection, we describe the mathematical model employed for the *PI* subproblem. In this phase, the decisions of when and how much to produce and how much to deliver are determined. To formulate the *PI*, we let β_{it} be a parameter which is equal to one if retailer i is visited in period t according to its visit combination, vc_i , and zero otherwise. We also let β_{0t} be a parameter being equal to one if the vehicle is dispatched in period t according to the selected visit combinations, and zero otherwise. The objective is to minimize production and inventory costs. The subproblem can be formulated as follows:

$$(PI) \quad \text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it}) \quad (3.19)$$

subject to (3.2) - (3.6), (3.14)

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot \beta_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.20)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} \leq Q \cdot \beta_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (3.21)$$

$$y_t \in \{0,1\}, \forall t \in T \quad (3.22)$$

3.3.3 Approximate Visit Combination Substitution Costs (λ_{ir}) Calculations and LS Subproblem Formulation

λ_{ir} calculations are performed based on the possible insertion/removal costs of retailer i into/from the existing vehicle routes of X . For $i \in N^r$ and $r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}$, let Ins_{ir} be the set of time periods belonging to r . For $i \in N^r$, let Rem_i be the set of time periods belonging to the existing vc_i . For $i \in N^r$, and $t \in T$, we also let ic_{it} (resp. rc_{it}) be the cost of inserting (resp. removing) retailer i into (resp. from) the route of the vehicle in period t . For each $i \in N^r$ and $r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}$, λ_{ir} is calculated as follows:

$$\lambda_{ir} = \sum_{t \in Ins_{ir} \setminus Rem_i} ic_{it} - \sum_{t \in Rem_i \setminus Ins_{ir}} rc_{it} \quad (3.23)$$

In Eq. (23), ic_{it} is the cheapest insertion cost for inserting retailer i in the route of period t while rc_{it} is associated with the cost decrease occurred when retailer i is removed from the route of period t and its predecessor is linked with its successor. In order to formulate LS subproblem, we define ψ_{ir} as a binary variable being equal to one if visit combination $r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}$ is substituted for vc_i , and zero otherwise. Moreover, let g_{it} be a parameter which equals to one if period t is covered by vc_i , and zero otherwise. Furthermore, we let $TL_i \subseteq WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}$ be a set of visit combinations of retailer i that are employed in the solutions of *tabuList*. The MIP model used in this procedure is constructed as follows:

$$(LS) \quad \text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it}) + \sum_{i \in N^r} \sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} \lambda_{ir} \cdot \psi_{ir} \quad (3.24)$$

subject to (3.2) - (3.6), (3.10), (3.14)

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot \sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} (a_{rt} \cdot \psi_{ir}) + \bar{M}_{it} \cdot g_{it} (1 - \sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} \psi_{ir}), \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.25)$$

$$\sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} \psi_{ir} \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (3.26)$$

$$\sum_{\forall i \in N_c} \sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} \psi_{ir} \geq 1 \quad (3.27)$$

$$\sum_{\forall i \in N_c} \sum_{r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\}} \psi_{ir} \leq \maxSub \quad (3.28)$$

$$\psi_{ir} = 0, \forall i \in N^r, \forall r \in TL_i \quad (3.29)$$

$$y_t, \psi_{ir} \in \{0,1\}, \forall t \in T, \forall i \in N^r, \forall r \in WR_i \setminus \{vc_i\} \quad (3.30)$$

The objective function (3.24) is the sum of fixed and variable production costs, inventory holding costs at plant and retailers, and the visit combination substitution costs. Constraint set (3.25) ensures that the delivered quantity to retailer i in period t can be positive if and only if that retailer is visited in period t . Constraint set (3.26) guarantees that at most one visit combination can be substituted for each retailer. Constraint (3.27) enforces that at least one visit combination substitution must be made while the maximum number of visit combination substitutions is limited in constraint (3.28). Constraint set (3.29) forbids the possible employment of tabu visit combinations. Finally, constraint set (3.30) defines nature of the decision variables.

3.3.4 WVCS Generation Mechanism (*WorkingSets*)

The main steps of *WorkingSets* are given in Figure 3.3. *WorkingSets* starts with calculating a selectivity score, SS_{ir} , in a randomized way for each visit combination $r \in R_i$ of each retailer i having more alternative visit combinations than Ms . In Figure 3.3, TCN_i is the total number of alternative visit combinations for retailer i and Mr is a number in the interval $(0, 1]$. The number of alternative visit combinations to be selected for each retailer i is the maximum of Ms and SN_i where SN_i is equal to $Mr \times TCN_i$. Throughout our preliminary experiments, it is observed that building the WVCSs predominantly from the visit combinations covering a small number of periods generally provides high-quality solutions for the PRP-VSP instances. Based on this observation, the SS_{ir} calculation is designed to allow visit combinations covering fewer time periods to score higher. In order to ensure diversification in the SS_{ir} calculation, the number of times the visit combination r has been added to WR_i , fn_{ir} , in the current multi-start execution is also taken into account. To calculate SS_{ir} , a

random number ρ_{ir} is generated in the interval $[1, 1.5]$ for each $i \in N_c$ and $r \in R_i$ and SS_{ir} is set to $(\rho_{ir} / fn_{ir}) / \sum_{t \in T} a_{rt}$.

Algorithm 2: WorkingSets

Input: Ms, Mr

Output: WVCSs (WR_i for each $i \in N'$)

for $i \leftarrow 1 : n$

$TCN_i \leftarrow$ the total number of visit combinations for retailer i ;

if $TCN_i > Ms$

 calculate the selectivity score for each alternative visit combination $r \in R_i$ of retailer i ;

$SN_i \leftarrow TCN_i \times Mr$

if $Ms > SN_i$

 add the first Ms of the visit combinations with the highest selectivity scores to WR_i ;

else

 add the first SN_i of the visit combinations with the highest selectivity scores to WR_i ;

end if

else

 add all visit combinations to WR_i ;

end if

end for

Figure 3.3 Main steps of *WorkingSets*

After SS_{ir} values are calculated, the visit combinations of each retailer are sorted in descending order of their scores and Ms or SN_i of those at the top of the list are included to the WVCS of the corresponding retailer.

3.4 Computational Study

While the proposed MA was coded in MATLAB R2016b, the mathematical models were coded in IBM ILOG CPLEX 12.6. All experiments were executed on a 4.00 GHz intel core i5-760X computer with 32 GB RAM. Moreover, we utilized IBM ILOG CPLEX for MATLAB which is an extension to IBM ILOG CPLEX that allows the user to define and solve optimization problems within MATLAB to solve *LS* and *PI* formulations. The executions of the models and MA have been limited to 3600 CPU seconds.

Since there are, to our knowledge, no standard benchmarks for the PRP-VSP, we created randomly a set of single vehicle problem instances to test the performance of MA. These instances have also been utilized to observe the effect of the VSP on the overall system cost. Additionally, by applying small modifications, the proposed algorithm has been applied to the standard single vehicle PRP instances presented in Archetti et al. (2011). In the following subsection, details on these utilized problem sets are given.

3.4.1 Test Instances

In this subsection, we initially give the details of our single vehicle PRP-VSP instance generation procedure. After that, general characteristics of the utilized standard PRP data set are explained.

3.4.1.1 Single Vehicle PRP-VSP Instance Generation

Our instance generation procedure is inspired from Archetti et al. (2011). The problems are divided into four classes according to their cost and capacity characteristics. The instances belonging to the first class are standard instances and the rest of the instances are generated by using these instances. The instances in the second class are comprised of low capacity values by halving the production, vehicle, and the plant inventory capacities of the first set instances. While the third class instances have higher production setup and unit production costs, the fourth class instances do not have any inventory holding costs at the retailers. For each problem class, there exist 56 instances containing 10 to 100 retailers and 10 to 20 time periods.

The problem instances are also classified according to the type of VSP applied for the retailers. The implemented VSPs are given in Table 3.2. In the table, each couple of numbers in parentheses indicates a visit time window. As can be seen from the table, when the VSP type number increases, larger visit time windows are employed in the problem instances. For example, for the problems with 10 periods and VSP type I, the

minimum and maximum number of time periods between two consecutive visits are equal. For the instances with VSP type II, the visit time window of each retailer is taken as either (1, 2) or (2, 3).

Table 3.2 Visit windows applied for each class of instances

VSP	Planning Horizon	
	10 periods	20 periods
VSP I	(1, 1), (2, 2)	(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)
VSP II	(1, 2), (2, 3)	(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4)
VSP III	(1, 2), (2, 4)	(1, 2), (2, 4), (3, 5)
VSP IV	(1, 3), (2, 5)	(1, 3), (2, 5), (3, 7)

The first class problem instances have been generated as follows: the coordinate values of the nodes are uniformly distributed within the interval $[0, 100]$ while the demand quantities of retailers for all time periods are uniformly distributed within the interval $[5, 25]$. The transportation cost between two locations is five times the Euclidean distance between the locations. The inventory holding costs of the nodes are generated in the interval $[1, 4]$. Unit production cost is three times the inventory holding cost at the production plant, while the production setup cost 100 times the unit production cost. The inventory capacity at retailer i is generated in the interval $[U_1,$

$$U_2], \text{ where } U_1 = \max_{t=1..Tm-min_i} \left(\sum_{j=t}^{t+min_i} d_{ij} \right) \text{ and } U_2 = \max_{t \in T} \left(\sum_{j=t}^{TD_{it}} d_{ij} \right).$$

The production and vehicle capacities are set to the sum of five and four periods of retailer consumption on average, respectively. The inventory capacity at the plant is two times the production capacity. As already mentioned, the production, vehicle, and plant inventory capacities are reduced by half for the second class instances. For the third class instances, unit production cost is 10 times the inventory holding cost at the production plant. We divide all generated instances into two sets, S1 and S2. The first set (S1) is comprised of the instances with up to 20 retailers while the second one (S2) is comprised of the other instances. The first and the second sets consist of 96 (S1) and 128 (S2) instances, respectively.

3.4.1.2 Standard PRP Instances

In order to test the performance of MA on the basic PRP instances with a single vehicle, we utilize the data set, A1, which is introduced in Archetti et al. (2011). The data set consists of instances with 14 retailers and six time periods. The problems are characterized by constant demand, no production capacity, and no plant inventory capacity but with initial inventory at the plant and retailers. There are 96 instance types and five instances per type, for a total of 480 instances for the set. The problems are categorized into four classes according to their cost patterns. The problems in the first class (types 1-24) are standard instances while those in the second class (types 25-48) and the third class (types 49-72) are characterized with high production cost and large transportation cost, respectively. The problems in Class IV have no retailer inventory holding cost.

3.4.1 Computational Results on Single Vehicle PRP-VSP Instances

In order to test the performance of MA with a heuristic algorithm on the generated PRP-VSP instances, we have adapted the iterative MIP heuristic (IM) of Absi et al. (2015) to the PRP-VSP. This version of the algorithm is marked as IM-VSP. Of the presented IM variants in Absi et al. (2015), we utilized IM-MS, which is implemented in a multi-start scheme with 20 restarts. The adapted version of IM contains the visit spacing constraints (3.16), (3.17) and (3.18) in the lot-sizing phase. Moreover, our implementation of IM differs from its original implementation in the routing phase, where we apply our routing procedure (*Route*) to generate the vehicle routes.

IM-VSP and MA are executed three times for each problem instance. After preliminary test results, the values of the parameters *maxStart*, *maxIter*, *Ms*, and *Mr* are set to 10, 10, 50, and 0.35 for MA, respectively. The value of *maxSub* is adjusted according to the number of retailers and is set to $\lceil n / 2 \rceil$. Note that the *LS* formulation of MA and the lot-sizing phase of IM-VSP are solved with a time limit of *n* seconds. As the models could not solve the instances in the second set, we made the performance comparison of MA, IM-VSP, and the models by using only the set S1.

The executions of the models and the heuristics have been limited to 3600 CPU seconds. In Appendix A, we also provide the data and optimal solution of a small size instance with 10 retailers and 10 periods.

The computational results obtained for the set S1 are summarized in Table 3.3. Moreover, detailed results of MA, IM-VSP and the models for the problem set are reported in Tables B1 through B4 in Appendix B. In Table 3.3, for each problem class, the average gap percentages of the algorithms with respect to the optimum results, when available, or with respect to the lower bounds produced by the models are presented along with the average computational times. '# best' shows the number of times a heuristic finds the best solution. From Table 3.3, it is seen that MA outperforms IM-VSP in terms of the average gap percentages with respect to the lower bounds for the first set. The average gap of MA and IM-VSP for all instances are found as 1.14 and 1.30, respectively. Moreover, MA and IM-VSP have reached the same solution in 64 instances. In the other 32 instances, MA outperforms IM-VSP in 21 out of 32 instances. These results indicate the superiority of MA over IM-VSP in the set S1. Furthermore, the overall average computational times are 878.2 and 115.7 seconds for IM-VSP and MA, respectively, which shows that MA is faster than IM-VSP.

Table 3.3 Summary of computational results for the set S1

Pr. Classes	IM-VSP		MA	
	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)
Class I	1.41	677.5	1.20	105.9
Class II	1.74	636.9	1.52	131.5
Class III	0.38	1203.0	0.31	112.0
Class IV	1.65	995.3	1.53	113.5
Avg.	1.30	878.2	1.14	115.7
#Best		75		85

When the detailed results for the set S1 are examined, it is observed that the models can produce optimal solutions for 48 out of 96 instances, and they fail to provide a feasible solution for the other instances within the specified computation time. For the 48 instances where the optimality is confirmed, MA and IM-VSP have reached the optimal solutions in 46 and 41 instances, respectively, and the average gaps of MA and IM-VSP with respect to the optimal results are 0.00% and 0.24%, respectively. It is also worth to remark that the computational times of MA are generally far less than

those of the models. For the 48 instances with a known optimal solution, the smallest of the computational times spent by the models for finding the optimal solutions are averaged around 688.6 seconds, while the average computational time of MA for these instances is only 35.8 seconds. Furthermore, it is also noticeable that the gaps between the average and the best results of MA are averaged around 0.12%. This outcome indicates the robustness of the proposed approach. When the results of the models are compared, it is observed that there does not exist a significant difference between the performances of the models. *Model 1* and *Model 2* provide optimal solutions for 43 and 45 instances, respectively. Besides, the average computational times of the models are 2262.4 and 2255.9 seconds, respectively.

A summary of the computational results obtained for the set S2 is reported in Table 3.4. Detailed results are also given in Tables B5 and B6 in Appendix B. In Table 3.4, for each algorithm, the average gap percentages with respect to the best solutions and the average computational times are reported. It can be seen in the table that MA provided better results than IM-VSP in terms of the average gaps and the computational times for all classes. Moreover, as in the first set of instances, MA found more best solutions than IM-VSP. These results also confirm the superiority of MA over IM-VSP on the PRP-VSP instances.

Table 3.4 Summary of computational results for the set S2

Pr. Classes	IM-VSP		MA	
	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)
Class I	0.25	2651.7	0.11	1543.0
Class II	0.22	1946.9	0.12	1518.2
Class III	0.21	3002.2	0.03	1535.7
Class IV	0.56	2845.8	0.05	1431.2
Avg.	0.31	2611.6	0.08	1507.0
#Best		58		87

3.4.2 Analyzing the Effect of the VSP on the Overall Cost

To observe the effect of the VSP on the PRP, we solve all problem instances in the sets S1 and S2 without imposing the visit spacing constraints. In order to solve the basic version of the PRP by MA, we initially created a new visit time window (min_i , max_i) for each retailer i in each problem instance. The visit windows are formed as

follows: for each retailer i , min_i is set to zero, which makes it possible to visit the retailer on consecutive periods. The value of max_i is set to the maximum number of time periods during which the retailer can meet the customer demands without any visit from the plant. After creating the new windows, we generated all the visit combinations for all the retailers. When min_i and max_i are respectively set to 0 and H , the number of alternative visit combinations grow at a rate proportional to $O(2^H)$. Specifically, allowing visits in consecutive time periods to a retailer gives rise to this exponential growth. Therefore, throughout the generation process, we observed that intractable number of visit combinations were created for the retailers in the instances with 20 periods, which makes these instances unsuitable for solving with MA. To deal with this issue, we have implemented IM-MS of Absi et al. (2015) to solve the instances with 20 periods. The implemented algorithm is the same as IM-VSP except the VSP constraints. In the instances with 20 periods, the cost comparison was conducted by using the results of IM-MS and IM-VSP for PRP and PRP-VSP, respectively. In 10-period instances, the results of MA for the PRP and PRP-VSP were utilized in cost comparison. The reason behind this application is to avoid errors arising from algorithm differences.

The average cost increase for each problem class and each VSP type is provided in Table 3.5. Moreover, detailed cost values for all instances are reported in Tables B7 through B14 in Appendix B. When the cost of imposing the VSP is analyzed, it is observed that the average increases on the total cost are higher in the first and the second problem classes compared to the third and fourth class instances. It is also noticeable that the biggest and the smallest average cost increases have occurred in the first and the fourth VSP type, respectively, for each problem class. Moreover, it is worth to remark that the average cost increase on the second class of instances is bigger than that on the first problem class of instances. This result indicates that as the capacities are tightened, bigger cost increases are observed for these instances.

The average cost values obtained by solving the instances with and without VSP are depicted in Table 3.6. When the results are analyzed, the changes on the inventory holding costs at the retailers (R. Inv.) are quite noticeable. Without the VSP policy,

the average total inventory holding costs at the retailers constitute 8.07%, 7.72% and 4.80% of the average overall cost for the first, second, and third problem classes, respectively. It is observed that these values are increased to 19.93%, 19.57%, and 8.64% for the first, second, and third problem classes, respectively, when the VSP is applied. On the other hand, it is found that the VSP does not have any significant effect on the total production costs. The average cost increase is around 3.33% for the instances where there is no inventory holding cost at the retailers or the production costs are dominant. However, for the other problem instances, the average cost change increases to 8.67%. The results show that for the systems where the inventory holding costs are important, managers need to determine whether the VSP is bearable in its impact on the inventory holding costs before deciding to implement it. Moreover, since it does not lead to significant cost increases in the systems with low inventory holding costs, the managers of such systems can apply the VSP more easily.

Table 3.5 Average cost increase % for each class of instances between the standard PRP and PRP-VSP

Pr. Classes	VSP type				Avg.
	VSP I	VSP II	VSP III	VSP IV	
Class I	9.62	8.32	8.50	6.08	8.13
Class II	11.90	8.65	9.14	7.19	9.22
Class III	3.65	2.74	2.96	2.06	2.85
Class IV	6.06	4.66	3.06	1.43	3.80
Avg.	7.81	6.09	5.91	4.19	6.00

3.4.3 Computational Results on Single Vehicle PRP Instances

The performance of MA is compared with five heuristic algorithms which are the optimization based ALNS of Adulyasak et al. (2014a) (Op-ALNS), multi-start IM (IM-MS) of Absi et al. (2015), multi-phase heuristic (5P) of Solyalı & Süral (2017), VNS of Qiu, Wang et al. (2018), three level heuristic (TLH) of Li et al. (2019), and three-level decomposition matheuristic (CCJ-DH) of Chitsaz et al. (2019). Because it was mentioned in Solyalı & Süral (2017) that the heuristic proposed by Archetti et al. (2011) requires a correction in its implementation, the results of this heuristic have not been included into the comparison. The optimal solutions for the instances have been found using the branch-and-cut algorithm in Ruokokovski et al. (2010) (Solyalı & Süral, 2017).

Table 3.6 Average cost values obtained by solving the instances with and without the VSP

Pr. Classes	Prod.			P. Inv.			R. Inv.			Trans.			Total		
	PRP-VSP	PRP	Diff.%	PRP-VSP	PRP	Diff.%	PRP-VSP	PRP	Diff.%	PRP-VSP	PRP	Diff.%	PRP-VSP	PRP	Diff.%
Class I	69672.6	70336.9	-0.94	570.6	204.3	179.37	22177.1	8240.4	169.13	18843.9	23386.6	-19.42	111264.3	102168.2	8.90
Class II	70460.1	70722.6	-0.37	615.7	239.8	156.77	22045.9	7919.6	178.37	19503.3	23684.4	-17.65	112625.0	102566.3	9.81
Class III	225492.0	226117.0	-0.28	3120.8	2190.9	42.44	23379.4	12581.8	85.82	18486.6	21022.5	-12.06	270478.8	261912.1	3.27
Class IV	68917.2	67835.1	1.60	683.6	483.8	41.30	-	-	-	17454.6	16224.7	7.58	87055.5	84543.6	2.97
Avg.	108635.5	108752.9	0.00	1247.7	779.7	104.97	22534.2	9580.6	144.44	18572.1	21079.6	-10.39	145355.9	137797.6	6.24

Notes. Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant, R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Diff.% = $((PRP-VSP - PRP) / PRP) \times 100$

It is important to note that in order to adhere to the PRP formulation given in Archetti et al. (2011), the maximum inventory level constraint set (3.6) are replaced with the constraint set (3.31) and $\bar{M}_{it}$ is the minimum of $\{L_i + d_{it}, Q, DD_{it}\}$ for these instances. By these changes, it is imposed that the level of inventory at retailer i is not greater than its maximum level after delivery and consumption. In constraint set (3.6), it was enforced that the inventory level at retailer i after delivery must be smaller than its maximum level.

$$I_{it} \leq L_i, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (3.31)$$

The summary of the results are provided in Tables 3.7 and 3.8. Moreover, detailed results of MA are given in Table B15 in Appendix B. In the tables, In Table 3.7, '# optimal' shows the number of times a heuristic finds the optimal solution. As it is seen from Table 3.7, MA is the best performing algorithm in terms of the average gap percentages with respect to the optimal solutions for the data set. The average gap of MA for all instances is found as 0.02%. Moreover, the number of instances for which MA has reached the optimal solution is 398, which is the highest number among all compared heuristics. Furthermore, it can be inferred from Table 3.8 that the computational times of MA are reasonable for the standard PRP instances. Although not designed for the PRP, it becomes clear that the proposed MA also performs well on the standard PRP instances with a single vehicle.

Table 3.7 Average Gap% with respect to the optimal solutions of A1

Classes	Op-ALNS	IM-MS	5P	VNS	TLH	CCJ-DH	MA
Class I	1.70	0.09	0.03	0.25	0.15	0.47	0.01
Class II	0.36	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.08	0.00
Class III	8.43	0.57	0.18	1.56	1.52	2.20	0.04
Class IV	0.93	0.02	0.03	0.21	0.57	0.23	0.01
Avg.	2.86	0.17	0.06	0.51	0.57	0.75	0.02
# Optimal	2	307	290	113	168	45	398

Table 3.8 Average computational times for the set A1

Classes	Op-ALNS	IM-MS	5P	VNS	TLH	CCJ-DH	MA
Class I	9.2	251.0	5.0	12.3	29.3	14.4	11.5
Class II	8.9	214.2	4.9	12.8	27.8	13.6	10.4
Class III	7.6	237.2	4.7	12.2	28.0	12.8	9.2
Class IV	8.7	216.9	5.2	12.6	25.1	14.9	9.4
Avg.	8.6	229.8	5.0	12.5	27.5	13.9	10.1

3.5 Chapter Summary

In this chapter, we introduce our study on the single vehicle PRP-VSP. Initially, two mathematical formulations have been developed for the PRP-VSP based on previous formulations. The models have been implemented on the generated test problems and it has been observed that it can generate feasible and optimal solutions to only small size instances. Therefore, in order to solve the PRP-VSP, a simple matheuristic algorithm (MA) is developed. The proposed MA is implemented in a multi-start scheme in which some subproblems are solved exactly using mathematical programming.

The performance of MA is tested on a set of randomly generated PRP-VSP instances. The results show that the developed MA can give high-quality solutions to the instances in reasonable computation times. Besides, MA is implemented to the standard PRP instances from the literature. The computational results indicate that the developed MA is effective in solving both the PRP. Additionally, to reveal the effect of the VSP on the overall cost, all problem instances are solved without imposing the visit spacing constraints. According to the results, it is observed that the VSP results in an increase on the overall cost of between 1.43% and 11.90%, on average. Furthermore, the results indicate that the VSP generally influences the inventory holding costs at the retailers significantly.

In the following chapter, we extend our study on the PRP-VSP by considering multiple vehicles.

CHAPTER FOUR

MULTI-VEHICLE PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEM WITH VISIT SPACING POLICY

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the production routing problem with visit spacing policy (PRP-VSP) is considered with multiple vehicles. In order to tackle the multi-vehicle problems, we develop two variants of our matheuristic algorithm (MA) presented in Chapter 3. The notation, models, and procedures of this chapter are strongly related to those presented in Chapter 3. For this reason, before proceeding to this chapter, we recommend readers read Chapter 3.

The performance of the developed MA variants are tested on a set of multi-vehicle PRP-VSP instances which are generated by utilizing the multi-vehicle PRP data set introduced in Boudia et al. (2007). In addition, the developed algorithms are applied to standard PRP instances introduced in Archetti et al. (2011) and the multi-vehicle inventory routing problem with visit spacing policy (IRP-VSP) instances solved in Coelho et al. (2012a).

The remainder of this chapter is organized as follows. In Section 4.2, the mathematical formulation of the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP is presented. In Section 4.3, the variants of MA are explained in detail. Section 4.4 presents the computational results obtained for the multi-vehicle problem instances. Finally, the context of the chapter is summarized in Section 4.5.

4.2 Mathematical Formulations for the Multi-Vehicle PRP-VSP

The PRP-VSP with multiple vehicles can be formulated by extending the mathematical models, *Model 1* and *Model 2*, presented in Chapter 3. Let $K = \{1, \dots, m\}$ be the set of homogeneous vehicles. The multi-vehicle PRP-VSP formulations are written using the same variables x , q , z with the same notation as in the models from

the previous chapter, however, a vehicle index k is added to these variables. The first multi-vehicle formulation that is the modified version of *Model 1* can be stated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } Z = & \sum_{t \in T} (u.p_t + f.y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i.I_{it} + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} c_{ij}.x_{ijtk}) \\ & \text{subject to (3.4), (3.5), (3.11)} \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

$$I_{0t-1} + p_t = \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{i \in N^r} q_{itk} + I_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (4.2)$$

$$I_{it-1} + \sum_{k \in K} q_{itk} = d_{it} + I_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.3)$$

$$I_{it-1} + \sum_{k \in K} q_{itk} \leq L_i, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.4)$$

$$q_{itk} \leq \bar{M}_{it}.z_{itk}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.5)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{jtk} = \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijtk}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.6)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijtk} = z_{itk}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.7)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{itk} \leq Q.z_{0tk}, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.8)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} z_{itk} - \sum_{r \in R_i} a_{rt}.s_{ir} = 0, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.9)$$

$$\sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S} x_{ijtk} \leq \sum_{i \in S} z_{itk} - z_{etk}, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K, \forall S \subseteq N^r : |S| \geq 2, \forall e \in S \quad (4.10)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} z_{itk} \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.11)$$

$$p_t, I_{it}, q_{itk} \geq 0, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.12)$$

$$x_{ijtk}, s_{ir}, y_t, z_{itk} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in N, \forall r \in R, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.13)$$

When $m = 1$, constraint sets (4.2) – (4.10) are equivalent to (3.2) – (3.3), (3.6) – (3.10) and (3.12) – (3.13), respectively. Constraint set (4.11) imposes that each retailer can be visited by at most one vehicle in a period. Constraint sets (4.12) and (4.13) define the nature of the decision variables. The visit spacing constraints (3.16) – (3.18) of *Model 2* can be adapted to the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP as follows:

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l=0}^{\min_i} z_{i,t+l,k} \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r, t = 1, \dots, (H - \min_i) \quad (4.14)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l=0}^{\max_i} z_{i,t+l,k} \geq 1, \forall i \in N^r, t = 1, \dots, (H - \max_i) \quad (4.15)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l=0}^{\hat{v}_i-1} z_{i,l+1,k} \geq 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (4.16)$$

With these new constraint sets, the multi-vehicle extension of *Model 2* consists of the equations (3.4), (3.5), (3.11), (4.1) - (4.8), (4.10) - (4.13), and (4.14) - (4.16).

4.3 Variants of MA for the Multi-Vehicle Cases

For the cases with more than one vehicle ($m > 1$), we develop two variants of MA. In this section, we present the modifications made in the steps of MA for the first and the second variant, respectively. Apart from these modifications, the algorithm is not changed.

4.3.1 Variant of MA with Aggregated Capacity Constraints for the Multi-Vehicle PRP-VSP

The first variant of MA makes use of aggregated vehicle capacity constraints in its *PI* and *LS* subproblem formulations to tackle the multi-vehicle cases of the PRP-VSP. We call this variant MA-ACC. The aggregated vehicle capacity constraints are formulated in the *PI* and *LS* formulations of MA-ACC as follows:

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} \leq Q \cdot \beta_{0t} \cdot m, \forall t \in T \quad (4.17)$$

With constraint set (4.17), the *PI* formulation of MA-ACC (*PI-ACC*) consists of the following equations: (3.2) – (3.6), (3.14), (3.19), (3.20), (3.22), and (4.17). The *LS* formulation of MA-ACC (*LS-ACC*) is comprised of the equations (3.2) – (3.6), (3.14), (3.24) – (3.30), and (4.17).

Constraint set (4.17) ensures that the total delivered quantity cannot exceed the available fleet capacity, however, it does not guarantee the feasibility of the solutions in terms of the number of vehicles utilized in a period. Because the split delivery is forbidden, it can be possible that all of the deliveries in a period can only be transported

by using more than m vehicles. In order to get rid of this issue, if X_{lb} is infeasible at the end of a multi-start iteration, a repair procedure, *Repair*, is implemented to make X_{lb} feasible. In this procedure, a modified version of *LS-ACC* formulation and the routing subproblems are successively solved to obtain a feasible solution. The modified *LS-ACC* formulation (*LSRepair*) does not involve the tabu solution constraints (3.29) and it contains a new aggregated vehicle capacity constraint set (4.18) instead of the set (4.17).

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} \leq Q \cdot \beta_{0t} \cdot m \cdot \theta_t, \forall t \in T \quad (4.18)$$

With these two modifications, *LSRepair* consists of the equations (3.2) – (3.6), (3.14), (3.24) – (3.28), (3.30), and (4.18). In (4.18), parameter θ_t is introduced to provide the feasibility of the routing subproblem by reducing the total delivered quantity in a period. The main steps of *Repair* are given in Figure 4.1. At the beginning of the procedure, θ_t is initialized to one for each $t \in T$. At each iteration of the procedure, *WorkingSets* procedure is executed and λ_{ir} values are calculated, respectively. After that, θ_t values are updated according to the vehicle routes of X_{lb} . If the number of used vehicles in period t exceeds Km , θ_t is decreased by 0.01. Otherwise, if the number of dispatched vehicles in period t is less than m , θ_t is increased by 0.01, unless it is equal to one. This θ_t updating strategy is adopted from Absi et al. (2015). After θ_t values are updated, *LSRepair* and *Route* subproblems are solved sequentially and new X_{lb} is formed. The procedure is repeated until a feasible X_{lb} is found.

Algorithm 3: Repair

Input: problem data, Ms , Mr , m , X_{lb}

Output: X_{lb}

initialize θ_t for each $t \in T$;

repeat

 generate WVCs, *WorkingSets*(Ms , Mr);

 calculate λ_{ir} values with respect to X_{lb} ;

 update θ_t values with respect to X_{lb} ;

 solve *LSRepair*(X_{lb} , λ_{ir} , m , θ_t) and get vc_i and q_{it} for each $i \in N^r$ and $t \in T$;

 solve *Route*(vc_i , q_{it}), and complete new X_{lb} ;

until X_{lb} becomes feasible

Figure 4.1 Main steps of *Repair*

4.3.2 The Second Variant of MA for the Multi-Vehicle PRP-VSP

In MA-ACC, the delivery quantity decisions are determined according to the aggregated vehicle capacity constraints. The fact that the *PI*-ACC and *LS*-ACC formulations do not involve decisions on the allocation of retailers to vehicles increases the efficiency of the algorithm significantly. However, in the problem instances with a tight vehicle capacity, it may decrease the accuracy of the visit combination substitution costs. In order to investigate this issue, we develop a second variant of MA, MA-SV, in which the *PI* and *LS* subproblems involve decisions on the clustering of retailers to vehicles.

In the *PI* subproblem formulation of MA-SV, the delivered quantity decision variable q_{it} is replaced with the decision variable q_{itk} that stands for the quantity delivered to retailer i in period t by vehicle k . Accordingly, the inventory balance constraint sets (3.2) and (3.3) and inventory capacity constraint set (3.6) are replaced with the constraint sets (4.2) – (4.4) from the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP formulation, respectively. Moreover, new delivered quantity constraint sets (4.19) and (4.20) are employed instead of the sets (3.20) and (3.21). Furthermore, another new constraint set (4.21) are utilized to forbid the split delivery. Consequently, the *PI* formulation of MA-SV, *PI*-SV, consists of the equations (3.19), (4.2) – (4.4), (4.12), and (4.19) – (4.22).

$$q_{itk} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot \beta_{it} \cdot z_{itk}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.19)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{itk} \leq Q \cdot \beta_{0t} \cdot z_{0tk}, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.20)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} z_{itk} \leq \beta_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.21)$$

$$y_t, z_{itk} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.22)$$

In the *LS* subproblem of MA-SV, the insertion (resp. removal) cost ic_{it} (resp. rc_{it}) is replaced with ic_{itk} (resp. rc_{itk}) which is the cost of inserting (resp. removing) retailer i into (resp. from) route k in period t . The introduced parameters ic_{itk} and rc_{itk} are utilized in the objective function in place of the visit combination substitution costs λ_{ir} . Accordingly, the binary variable ψ_{ir} is not employed in the new formulation. Instead,

we make use of the s_{ir} variable from *Model 1*. Additionally, we define γ_{itk} (resp. δ_{itk}) as a binary variable being equal to one if retailer i is inserted (resp. removed) into (resp. from) route k in period t , and zero otherwise. Moreover, parameter g_{it} is also extended with a vehicle index k (g_{itk}) and it equals to one if retailer i is visited by vehicle k in period t , and zero otherwise. As a result, the MIP model for the *LS* subproblem of MA-SV is formulated as follows:

$$(LS-SV)Min Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it}) + \sum_{t \in T} \left(\sum_{i \in N^r} \sum_{k \in K} ((1 - g_{itk}) \gamma_{itk} \cdot ic_{itk} - g_{itk} \cdot rc_{itk} \cdot \delta_{itk}) \right) \quad (4.23)$$

subject to (3.4) - (3.5), (4.2) - (4.4), (4.12)

$$q_{itk} \leq \bar{M}_{it} (g_{itk} + (1 - g_{itk}) \gamma_{itk} - g_{itk} \cdot \delta_{itk}), \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.24)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{itk} \leq Q, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.25)$$

$$\sum_{r \in WR_i \cup \{vc_i\}} s_{ir} = 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (4.26)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} (g_{itk} + \gamma_{itk} - \delta_{itk}) - \sum_{r \in WR_i \cup \{vc_i\}} a_{rt} \cdot s_{ir} = 0, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.27)$$

$$s_{ir} = 0, \forall i \in N^r, \forall r \in TL_i \quad (4.28)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} (g_{itk} + (1 - g_{itk}) \gamma_{itk} - g_{itk} \cdot \delta_{itk}) \leq 1, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (4.29)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} ((1 - g_{itk}) \gamma_{itk} - g_{itk} \cdot \delta_{itk}) \leq e, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K \quad (4.30)$$

$$s_{ir}, \gamma_{itk}, \delta_{itk} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T, \forall k \in K, \forall r \in WR_i \cup \{vc_i\} \quad (4.31)$$

As in the *PI-SV* formulation, the q variable has a vehicle index k . The objective function (4.23) minimizes the total cost. Constraint sets (4.24) is equivalent to the constraint set (3.25). Vehicle capacity constraints are dictated in constraint set (4.25). Constraint set (4.26) - (4.27) are the counterparts of the VSP constraint sets (3.11) and (4.9) from the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP formulation. Constraint set (4.28) is the tabu visit combination constraints and it is equivalent to the constraint set (3.29). Constraint set (4.29) prevents the split delivery. In the basic version of MA and MA-ACC, we limit the maximum number of visit combination substitutions to a specified number, *maxSub*. In MA-SV, we remove the parameter *maxSub* and introduce a new parameter e in (4.30) for a similar purpose. Constraint set (4.30) enforces that the total number

of insertions and removals in a vehicle route cannot be bigger than e . Finally, constraint set (4.31) is for binary restrictions.

In MA-SV, after the *PI-SV* and *LS-SV* formulations are solved, the vehicle routes are determined by applying a two-stage procedure. In the first stage, using the values of q_{itk} , a TSP is solved for each vehicle k in each period t . Later, a VRP is solved for each period to obtain better vehicle routes.

4.4 Computational Study

For the multi-vehicle cases of PRP-VSP, we adapted the standard multi-vehicle PRP instances proposed in Boudia et al. (2007) to the PRP-VSP. Additionally, by applying small modifications, the proposed algorithms have been applied to the standard PRP instances presented in Archetti et al. (2011) as well as to the multi-vehicle (IRP-VSP) instances solved in Coelho et al. (2012a). The running platform and the software of the algorithms are the same with those presented in Chapter 3.

4.4.1 Test Instances

4.4.1.1 Multi-Vehicle PRP-VSP Instances

The data set generated by Boudia et al. (2007) contains three problem sets, B1, B2, and B3, with respectively 50, 100, and 200 retailers and 20 periods. Each problem set involves 30 instances. The instances are also characterized with a time varying demand, limited production and storage capacities at the plant and a limited number of vehicles. In order to apply the VSP, we set the minimum and maximum number of periods between two consecutive visits to one and seven, respectively. However, the test instances cannot be made suitable for the VSP by only imposing the visit windows. For the data set, it is assumed that the initial inventory level of the production plant equals to the total retailer demand in the first period. Moreover, it is assumed that there is no production in period 1 and the demand in this period must be satisfied from the initial inventory at the plant. In this case, all solutions must include distribution

plans for periods 1 and 2 each of which covers all retailers. To avoid the consecutive visits in periods 1 and 2, we set the initial inventory level of the production plant to zero and not assume that production is not be made in the first period for each instance. After these modifications, we call the modified data sets B1-VSP, B2-VSP, and B3-VSP, respectively.

4.4.1.2 Standard PRP Instances

The data set introduced in Archetti et al. (2011) involves problem instances with 14 (A1), 50 (A2), and 100 (A3) retailers and six time periods in three sets. The characteristics of the single-vehicle set A1 are described in Chapter 3. The instances in the sets A2 and A3 share the same problem characteristics, however, the vehicle fleet is unlimited in these sets.

4.4.1.3 IRP with the VSP Instances

There exist two data sets utilized to solve the IRP-VSP in Coelho et al. (2012a). The first data set (S-IRP-VSP) consists of 160 small single vehicle IRP instances originally proposed in Archetti, Bertazzi, Laporte & Speranza (2007). This data set contains 100 instances with five to 50 retailers and three periods and 60 instances with five to 30 retailers and six periods. The second set (L-IRP-VSP) involves 60 larger instances presented in Archetti et al. (2012), with from 50 to 200 retailers and six time periods. All instances are also classified according to whether their inventory holding costs are high or low. The instances of both sets were adapted to the multi-vehicle IRP in Coelho et al. (2012a) by dividing the original vehicle capacity by the number of vehicles considered. For the IRP-VSP, the authors have solved the instances with three vehicles by setting the minimum and maximum number of periods between two consecutive visits to one and two, respectively. After applying the VSP, we have observed that six small size instances with six time periods in the set S-IRP-VSP have become infeasible. Therefore, we have solved 154 instances in this data set.

4.4.2 Computational Results

4.4.2.1 Computational Results on Multi-Vehicle PRP-VSP Instances

As we have done for the computational study on single vehicle instances, we have adapted a multi-vehicle variant of the iterative MIP heuristic (IM) of Absi et al. (2015), IM-VRP, to the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP to test the performances of the multi-vehicle variants of MA. We call this adapted version of the algorithm IM-MVVSP. As in IM-VSP, IM-MVVSP involves the VSP constraint sets (3.16) – (18) in the lot-sizing phase and our routing algorithm is utilized to construct the vehicle routes.

The value of the parameter *maxStart* is set to two for both variants of MA. Additionally, the parameter *e* of MA-SV is set to 10 after preliminary tests. Except from these changes, settings of the parameters of MA for the sets S1 and S2 kept unchanged for the multi-vehicle instance sets. Moreover, the executions of the heuristics have been limited to 7200 CPU seconds.

Computational results obtained for the sets B1-VSP, B2-VSP, and B3-VSP are summarized in Table 4.1. Detailed results on these data sets are reported in Tables C1 and C2 in Appendix C. In Table 4.1, the average gap percentages (Avg. Gap%) with respect to the best results are provided along with the average computation times (Avg. t. (s)) and the number of best solutions found (#Best) for each algorithm on each data set. The computational results indicate that MA-ACC is the best performing algorithm in terms of the average gap percentages with respect to the best solutions and the number of best solutions found for all data sets. The average gap of MA-ACC is found as 0.63%. IM-MVVSP is the second best performing algorithm for all data set with an average gap percentage of 0.99. The performance of MA-SV is significantly worse than other heuristics in terms of the average gap percentages and the average computational times. Besides, it is also noticeable that as the problem size increases, the effectiveness of MA-SV worsens. The reason for that outcome is that the time required to obtain a good solution by the *LS* formulation of MA-SV, *LS-SV*, greatly

increases with the problem size. Multiple vehicle capacity constraints clearly complicate the solution of *LS-SV*.

Table 4.1 Summary of the computational results for the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP instances

Set	IM-MVVSP			MA-ACC			MA-SV		
	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)	#Best	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)	#Best	Avg. Gap%	Avg. t. (s)	#Best
B1-VSP	0.95	1862.4	7	0.70	1148.6	18	2.69	4503.4	5
B2-VSP	0.69	5140.4	8	0.54	3828.9	21	4.85	7200.0	1
B3-VSP	1.32	7200.0	12	0.64	7200.0	18	5.42	7200.0	0
All	0.99	4734.3	27	0.63	4059.2	57	4.32	6301.1	6

4.4.2.2 Computational Results on the Sets A2 and A3

The fleet size is unlimited in the sets A2 and A3. As MA-ACC and MA-SV are designed to solve the PRP-VSP instances with a limited number of vehicles, we have not implemented these algorithms to these data sets. Instead, we have adapted the basic version of MA to the data sets by only removing the vehicle capacity constraint set (3.10) from the *LS* and *PI* formulations. The performance of MA is compared with five heuristic algorithms which are the optimization based ALNS of Adulyasak et al. (2014a) (Op-ALNS), multi-start IM variants (IM-MultiTSP and IM-VRP) of Absi et al. (2015), multi-phase heuristic (5P) of Solyalı & Süral (2017), VNS of Qiu, Wang et al. (2018), three level heuristic (TLH) of Li et al. (2019), and three-level decomposition matheuristic (CCJ-DH) of Chitsaz et al. (2019). The value of the parameter *maxStart* is set to five and two for the sets A2 and A3, respectively.

A summary of the results obtained for the sets A2 and A3 are reported in Table 4.2. The detailed results of MA on these data sets are provided in Tables C3 and C4, respectively, in Appendix C. In Table 4.2, '# best' shows the number of times a heuristic finds the best solution. As it is seen from Table 4.2, MA is the best performing algorithm in terms of the average gap percentages with respect to the best solutions for the set A2. The average gap of MA for all instances is found as 0.12%. Moreover, MA has obtained the best results for 136 instances, while improving 125 best known solutions. When the results obtained for A3 is analyzed, it is observed that MA has provided the best results for 124 instances, while improving 123 best known solutions. Although MA is the second best algorithm in terms of the average gap percentages

with respect to the best solutions, the difference between the average gaps of 5P and MA is only 0.02%.

The average computational times obtained for A2 and A3 are provided in Table 4.3. A fair comparison of MA with the other methods in terms of computational time cannot be made because the algorithms were implemented on different platforms and software. However, our computational experiments indicate that the computational times of the proposed MA do not differ significantly from those of other compared methods. The average computational times are 82.2 and 188.8 seconds for A2 and A3, respectively. This outcome indicates that MA spends reasonable computation times to solve the PRP instances.

Table 4.2 Average Gap% with respect to the best solutions of A2 and A3

	Classes	Op-ALNS	IM-VRP	IM-MultiTSP	5P	VNS	TLH	CCJ-DH	MA
A2	Class I	1.23	0.27	1.19	0.15	0.15	0.27	0.19	0.07
	Class II	0.18	0.06	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.02
	Class III	3.88	1.34	3.08	0.44	0.39	1.16	0.68	0.30
	Class IV	0.26	0.17	0.53	0.13	0.05	0.11	0.07	0.08
	Avg.	1.39	0.46	1.23	0.19	0.16	0.39	0.24	0.12
	# Best	1	9	14	108	55	59	111	136
A3	Class I	1.03	0.25	1.89	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.29	0.05
	Class II	0.14	0.03	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.03	0.02
	Class III	3.74	1.32	3.90	0.23	0.39	1.42	1.68	0.33
	Class IV	0.32	0.23	0.69	0.04	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.07
	Avg.	1.30	0.46	1.65	0.10	0.18	0.42	0.51	0.12
	# Best	0	28	8	142	29	86	65	124

Table 4.3 Average computational times for A2 and A3

		Op-ALNS	IM-VRP	IM-MultiTSP	5P	VNS	TLH	CCJ-DH	MA
A2	Class I	50.2	25.6	338.5	16.4	25.2	43.1	328.8	89.2
	Class II	49.5	21.7	235.7	13.8	21.3	36.5	272.8	77.5
	Class III	42.7	22.6	317.9	15.8	24.5	39.3	252.6	78.0
	Class IV	44.1	27.7	375.8	25.4	28.4	42.1	271.5	84.1
	Avg.	46.6	24.4	317.0	17.9	24.9	40.3	281.4	82.2
A3	Class I	228.5	85.5	514.2	323.5	84.6	168.6	1313.1	187.0
	Class II	217.6	76.1	497.4	50.6	73.4	131.9	1062.7	101.6
	Class III	197.8	75.1	509.3	349.6	72.8	144.5	1016.9	290.3
	Class IV	206.0	86.6	507.0	125.1	83.7	159.8	1056.6	176.2
	Avg.	212.5	80.8	507.0	212.2	78.6	151.2	1112.3	188.8

4.4.2.3 Computational Results on the IRP-VSP Instances

Our algorithms can be easily modified to solve the IRP-VSP by fixing the production decisions. For $t \in T$, let B_t be the production quantity made available in

period t . First, the production setup variable y_t and quantity variable p_t are set to one and B_t , respectively, for each $t \in T$. Second, $\bar{M}_{it}$ is set to the minimum of $\{L_i, Q\}$ instead of $\{L_i, Q, DD_{it}\}$.

The aforementioned IRP with the VSP data sets, S-IRP-VSP and L-IRP-VSP, have been solved only in Coelho et al. (2012a), to the best of our knowledge. In this study, the authors have developed an ALNS algorithm to the multi-vehicle IRP with the consistency features. Hence, we compare the computational results of MA-ACC and MA-SV with the results of ALNS. The value of the parameter *maxStart* is set to five for both variants of MA.

The computational results on the set S-IRP-VSP are summarized in Table 4.4. Detailed computational results are provided in Table C5 through C8 in Appendix C. The first two columns in Table 4.4 give information about the characteristics of the set instances. The first column ('Inv. C.') indicates the type of the inventory holding costs of the instances while the second column (' H ') shows the number of periods. For MA-ACC and MA-SV, we report the average gap percentages (Avg. Gap) with respect to the best results along with the average computation times (Avg. t. (s.)) obtained for each instance group. As in the other data sets, '# best' shows the number of times a heuristic finds the best solution. As the computational times of ALNS were not reported in Coelho et al. (2012a), we only give its average gaps. From the table, it is seen that MA-SV outperforms other algorithms in terms of the average gap percentages with respect to the best solutions. Moreover, MA-SV has managed to obtain the best solutions for 111 out of 154 instances, while improving 76 best known solutions.

Table 4.4 Summary of the computational results obtained for the set S-IRP-VSP

Inv. C.	H	ALNS	MA-ACC		MA-SV	
		Avg. Gap	Avg. Gap	Avg. t. (s.)	Avg. Gap	Avg. t. (s.)
Low	3	0.95	4.22	62.7	0.13	265.4
High	3	1.49	3.20	61.1	0.09	264.0
Low	6	0.75	3.74	92.4	0.31	395.9
High	6	0.22	2.74	90.4	0.44	454.8
	Avg.	0.96	3.55	76.7	0.20	345.0
	#Best	74	9		111	

The performance of MA-ACC on the set S-IRP-VSP is far worse than MA-SV and ALNS, which is quite interesting. Specifically, as the problem size decreases, the gaps of the solutions of MA-ACC with respect to the best solutions become larger. Even on most of the small size instances with up to 10 retailers, MA-ACC has failed to reach the best known solutions. This issue is probably originated from tight vehicle capacity constraints on these instances. Because MA-ACC involves aggregated vehicle capacity constraints in its *LS-ACC* formulation, the delivered quantity values may become so large that retailer clusters expected to cause low transportation costs on the same route cannot be created due to low vehicle capacity. In order to investigate this issue, we perform a small numerical investigation on a subset of small size instances with low inventory holding costs under different vehicle capacity scenarios. In our study, we have resolved the selected group of instances by increasing the vehicle capacity Q to $Q \times 2$, $Q \times 3$, and $Q \times 4$. The results are reported in Table 4.5. In the table, we also present the previously obtained results for the original instances (Base case scenario). When the average gaps between the results of MA-ACC and MA-SV are analyzed, it has been seen that as the vehicle capacity increases, the average gap decreases. While the average gap is 5.17% for the base case scenario, it decreases to 0.00% for Scenario 3. This result clearly shows the impact of the vehicle capacity constraints on the quality of the obtained solutions of MA-ACC.

Table 4.5 Results for different vehicle capacity scenarios of some instances with Inv. C.: Low and $H = 3$ from the set S-IRP-VSP

inst.	n	Scenarios											
		Base case scenario			Scenario 1: $Q \rightarrow Q \times 2$			Scenario 2: $Q \rightarrow Q \times 3$			Scenario 3: $Q \rightarrow Q \times 4$		
		MA-ACC	MA-SV	Gap%	MA-ACC	MA-SV	Gap%	MA-ACC	MA-SV	Gap%	MA-ACC	MA-SV	Gap%
1	5	1540.57	1430.51	7.69	1395.68	1248.54	11.78	1247.68	1235.94	0.95	1234.68	1234.68	0.00
1	10	3100.87	2766.61	12.08	2038.82	2038.82	0.00	1683.82	1683.82	0.00	1649.82	1649.82	0.00
3	5	3497.96	3497.96	0.00	1884.02	1884.02	0.00	1652.02	1652.02	0.00	1568.02	1568.02	0.00
3	10	2666.69	2649.26	0.66	2096.10	2094.96	0.05	1955.10	1953.84	0.06	1871.10	1871.10	0.00
5	5	1677.21	1516.65	10.59	1220.21	1220.21	0.00	999.42	999.42	0.00	999.42	999.42	0.00
5	10	2648.07	2648.53	-0.02	1904.96	1904.96	0.00	1837.96	1837.96	0.00	1683.96	1683.96	0.00
Avg.				5.17			1.97			0.17			0.00

Notes. Gap% = $((MA-ACC - MA-SV) / MA-SV) \times 100$

A summary of the computational results obtained for the set L-IRP-VSP are presented in Table 4.6. Detailed results on this set can be found in Table C9 in Appendix C. The results on this data set show that MA-ACC and MA-SV perform far better than ALNS. Both variants of MA outperform ALNS on all of the instances. Unlike on the set S-IRP-VSP, MA-ACC is the best performing algorithm in terms of the number of best solutions found on this data set. The average gaps of MA-ACC and

MA_SV are very close to each other. However, the average computational times of MA-ACC are less than those of MA-SV, which indicates that MA-ACC is more efficient than MA-SV on the set L-IRP-VSP.

Table 4.6 Summary of the computational results obtained for the set L-IRP-VSP

Inv. C.	ALNS	MA-ACC		MA-SV	
	Avg. Gap	Avg. Gap	Avg. t. (s.)	Avg. Gap	Avg. t. (s.)
Low	54.29	1.20	1554.5	1.34	11556.6
High	18.82	0.85	1634.0	0.63	11593.0
Avg.	36.55	1.03	1594.2	0.99	11574.8
#Best	0	36		24	

4.5 Chapter Summary

In this chapter, we extend our previous study on the PRP-VSP by considering multiple vehicles. Two variants of MA have been proposed to tackle the multi-vehicle version of the problem. The performance of developed algorithms has been tested on randomly generated instances. The results indicate the effectiveness of the proposed approaches. Moreover, the performance of MA is tested on standard PRP and the IRP with the VSP instances from the literature. The computational results show that the developed algorithm generates competitive results with the most powerful algorithms developed so far, for the standard PRP and the IRP with the VSP. Especially, it has been observed that the developed approach has improved the best known solutions for several test instances.

The following chapter presents our work on the PRP with transshipments.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE PRODUCTION ROUTING PROBLEM WITH TRANSSHIPMENT

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we study the production routing problem with transshipment (PRPT). The concept of transshipments has been formally integrated within in the inventory routing problem (IRP) in Coelho et al. (2012b), Lefever et al. (2018), and Coelho et al. (2014). The IRP with transshipments was introduced in Coelho et al. (2012). In this paper, the authors presented a formulation and proposed an adaptive large neighborhood search (ALNS) for the problem. The developed ALNS changed the vehicle routes while the remaining problem of determining quantity decisions and transshipment moves is solved by using a network flow algorithm. The authors also performed an extensive numerical study to assess the effect of transshipments on the overall system cost. Lefever et al. (2018) proposed a branch-and-cut algorithm for the IRP with transshipments. In this study, new sets of valid inequalities for the problem are presented. Computational results indicate that the suggested valid inequalities greatly reduce the computational burden for solving the problem to optimality. The IRP with transshipments has been considered in dynamic and stochastic environments in Coelho et al. (2014). The authors suggested heuristic algorithms for different solution policies.

In this study, we address the PRP with the concept of transshipment for the first time. Initially, an MIP model is formulated for the PRPT. Although the formulated model performs well on small size instances, its performance tumbles in middle and large size instances. For this reason, we propose a mathematical programming heuristic (MPH) to solve the PRPT. In order to perform a computational study, some of the PRP benchmark instances introduced in Archetti et al. (2011) are adapted to the PRPT. In addition, a set of production routing problem with visit spacing policy (PRP-VSP) instances presented in Chapter 3 are adapted to the PRPT. The performance of our MPH is compared with a general-purpose commercial solver. The results indicate that the developed approach can produce high-quality solutions to the PRPT in

reasonable computation times. In addition, an extensive study has been performed to reveal the effect of the transshipments on the overall cost. The results show the benefits of allowing transshipments.

The rest of this chapter is organized as follows. In Section 5.2, the formal problem description and the developed MIP model for the PRPT are given. In Section 5.3, we present our MPH algorithm. The computational results are given in Section 5.4. Finally, a summary of the chapter is given in Section 5.

5.2 Problem Description and Formulation

We consider a production-distribution system which is defined on a graph $G = (N, A)$, where $N = \{0, \dots, n\}$ is the node set and $A = \{(i, j): i, j \in N, i \neq j\}$ is the arc set. We denote by 0 the production plant and by other nodes the retailers. A single product is manufactured in the production plant, and is sold by the retailers along a discretized planning horizon $T = \{1, \dots, H\}$. The quantity demanded at retailer i , $i \in N \setminus \{0\}$, in time period t , $t \in T$, is indicated by d_{it} . At each location, the production plant or a retailer location, there exists a storage area with a limited capacity L_i . The inventory holding cost at node i , $i \in N$, is denoted by h_i . In each time period, a decision on whether to make the product is taken by the production plant. In case of the production, a fixed setup cost f is resulted along with a unit production cost u that is incurred for each produced unit. Moreover, the produced lot size is limited with a production capacity C . A single vehicle with a limited capacity Q distributes the products to the retailers. The vehicle can perform at most one route in each time period, and the vehicle routes start and end at the production plant. Each retailer can be visited at most once in a route. A transportation cost c_{ij} is associated with each arc $(i, j) \in A$. Delivered quantities for each retailer are determined according to the maximum level policy. An initial inventory I_{i0} is defined for each node i , $i \in N$. A transshipment can originate from the depot or from any retailer on a special request basis. This can be done by subcontracting to a carrier who will pickup goods from any transshipment point. These outsourced deliveries are only made by direct shipping and the unit cost associated with transshipping products from i to j is b_{ij} . The aim of the considered problem is to

combine the decisions of production, inventory, routing, and transshipment operations that minimize the total cost with respect to the stated constraints. In each time period in which both regular deliveries and transshipments are performed, the sequence of operations at the retailer locations is the following: first the regular deliveries are made by the vehicle, second transshipments are performed, then the demands of the retailers are satisfied. After that, the final inventory levels are calculated. To formulate the problem, the following notation is defined:

Sets

N^r : set of all retailers $\{1, \dots, n\}$

N : set of all nodes $\{0, 1, \dots, n\}$

T : set of time periods $\{1, \dots, H\}$

Parameters

u : unit production cost

f : production setup cost

C : production capacity

Q : capacity of the vehicle

h_i : unit inventory holding cost at node i

L_i : maximum or target inventory level at node i

I_{i0} : initial inventory level at node i

d_{it} : demand at retailer i in period t

c_{ij} : transportation cost from node i to node j

b_{ij} : unit transshipment cost of the product from node i to node j

M_t : $\min\{C, \sum_{l=t}^H \sum_{i \in N^r} d_{il}\}$, maximum quantity that can be produced in period t

$\bar{M}_{it}$: $\min\{L_i, Q, \sum_{j=t}^H d_{ij}\}$, maximum quantity that can be delivered to node i in period t

Decision Variables

p_t : production quantity in period t

$$y_t : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if there is production at the plant in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

I_{it} : inventory level at node i at the end of period t

$$x_{ijt} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the vehicle travels directly from node } i \text{ to node } j \text{ in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

q_{it} : quantity delivered to retailer i in period t by the vehicle

$$z_{it} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if retailer } i \text{ is visited in period } t \text{ by the vehicle} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$z_{0t} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the vehicle is dispatched in period } t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

w_{ijt} : amount of product transshipped from node $i, i \in N$, to node $j, j \in N^r$, in period t

v_{it} : sum of the deliveries made by the vehicle in period t after visiting retailer i

The PRPT can be formulated as follows:

$$(PRPT) \text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} c_{ij} \cdot x_{ijt} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N^r} b_{ij} \cdot w_{ijt}) \quad (5.1)$$

subject to

$$I_{0t-1} + p_t = \sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} + I_{0t} + \sum_{i \in N^r} w_{0it}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.2)$$

$$I_{it-1} + q_{it} + \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} w_{jit} = d_{it} + I_{it} + \sum_{j \in N^r \setminus \{i\}} w_{ijt}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.3)$$

$$p_t \leq M_t \cdot y_t, \forall t \in T \quad (5.4)$$

$$I_{0t} \leq L_0, \forall t \in T \quad (5.5)$$

$$I_{it-1} + q_{it} + \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} w_{jit} \leq L_i, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.6)$$

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot z_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.7)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N^r} q_{it} \leq Q \cdot z_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.8)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{jit} = \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijt}, \forall i \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (5.9)$$

$$\sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} x_{ijt} = z_{it}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.10)$$

$$v_{it} - v_{jt} + Q \cdot x_{ijt} \leq Q - q_{jt}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall j \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.11)$$

$$q_{it} \leq v_{it} \leq Q, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.12)$$

$$p_t, I_{it}, q_{it}, w_{ijt} \geq 0, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.13)$$

$$x_{ijt}, y_t \in \{0,1\}, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in N, \forall t \in T \quad (5.14)$$

$$z_{it} \in \{0,1\}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.15)$$

The objective function (5.1) minimizes the total production, setup, inventory, routing, and transshipment costs. Constraint sets (5.2) and (5.3) are the inventory flow balance constraints at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (4) ensures the production setup variable to be one if product is made in a given period and limit the production quantity to the minimum value between the production capacity and the total demand in the remaining periods. Constraint sets (5.5) and (5.6) limit the maximum inventory at the plant and retailers, respectively. Constraint set (5.7) limits the delivered quantity q_{it} to $\bar{M}_{it}$, which is the minimum of the retailer inventory capacity L_i , vehicle capacity Q , and the total demand of retailer i in the remaining periods. Constraint set (5.8) dictates the vehicle capacity, and the vehicle flow conservation constraints are given in Constraint sets (5.9) and (5.10). The subtour elimination constraints are given in constraint sets (5.11) and (5.12). Finally, the constraint sets (5.13), (5.14), and (5.15) define the nature of the decision variables. The introduced PRPT is NP-hard since it contains a traveling salesman problem (TSP) that is known to be NP-hard (Boudia et al., 2007; Archetti et al., 2011; Adulyasak et al., 2014a). Due to the complexity of the problem, we develop a heuristic algorithm for the PRPT.

5.3 Solution Method

We propose a two-phase mathematical programming heuristic (MPH) to solve the PRPT. In the first phase, a feasible solution is initially constructed by sequentially solving two decomposed problems, the production-distribution and routing subproblems. After that, the obtained initial solution is updated by applying an MIP-based local search procedure iteratively. The local search procedure is based on the insertion and removal of the retailers from the vehicle routes. The feasible solution construction and local search procedures are implemented in a multi-start scheme, and each multi-start execution is repeated until a given number of local search iterations is reached. Throughout the first phase, the production setup and distribution decisions

for all solutions, i.e., the production setup configurations and delivery schedules for the retailers, are recorded in schedule lists. These schedule lists are employed in the second phase.

The second phase of MPH is based on the a priori tour idea, which is introduced in Pınar & Süral (2006) and employed in Solyalı & Süral (2011) for the single vehicle IRP. The idea is to make the vehicle routing decisions easier by dictating a predetermined sequence of all retailers for all routes where the vehicle always follows the given sequence for the retailers to be visited and skips the non-visited ones. At the beginning of the second phase, the predetermined sequence of all retailers is obtained by solving a TSP over all nodes. Next, using the obtained sequence and information collected during the first phase, we formulate and solve a restricted version of the PRPT as an MIP. Specifically, utilizing the production and delivery schedule lists constructed during the first phase enables the algorithm to focus the search on the promising regions of the solution space. Moreover, we tighten the MIP formulations solved in the local search and in the second phase with some inequalities, which reduces the computational burden significantly. Main steps of our MPH is given in Figure 5.1. Next, we explain the components of our heuristic in detail.

5.3.1 First Phase

As mentioned previously, the first phase of MPH consists of the multi-start executions of the initial solution construction and the local search procedures. We denote by $maxStart$ and $maxIter$ the number of multi-start executions and the number of local search iterations applied in a single multi-start execution, respectively. At the beginning of the first phase, an empty delivery schedule set, K_i , for each retailer $i \in N^r$, is created. In addition, an empty production setup configuration set, Ps , is created to store the production setup configurations. During the search process, whenever a new solution is obtained through either initial solution construction or local search, the delivery schedule of each retailer $i \in N^r$ (resp. the production setup configuration) in the new solution is added to K_i (resp. Ps) if it does not exist in the current set.

Algorithm 1: MPH
Input: problem data, $maxStart$, $maxIter$, $pIter$
Output: best solution, X_b
// first phase of MPH //
create an empty set K_i for each $i \in N^r$;
create an empty set Ps ;
for $i \leftarrow 1:maxStart$
 construct an initial solution, X ;
 update set Ps and set K_i for each $i \in N^r$ by utilizing the solution X ;
 for $j \leftarrow 1:maxIter$
 select a random retailer λ ;
 calculate the insertion and removal costs Γ_t and Δ_t for each period $t \in T$ for retailer λ ;
 if j is a multiple of $pIter$
 solve $LSM'(X, \lambda, \Gamma_t, \Delta_t)$ model and obtain a new solution X' ;
 update set Ps and set K_λ by using the solution X' ;
 else
 solve $LSM(X, \lambda, \Gamma_t, \Delta_t)$ model and obtain a new solution X' ;
 update set K_λ by using the solution X' ;
 end if
 $X \leftarrow X'$;
 end for
end for
// second phase of MPH //
solve a giant TSP over all nodes obtain the sets α_i and β_i for each $i \in N$;
solve $SP(Ps, K_i, \alpha_i, \beta_i)$ model and obtain X_b ;
update the vehicle routes of X_b by solving a TSP for each period $t \in T$;

Figure 5.1 Main steps of MPH

5.3.1.1 Initial Solution Construction

Our initial solution construction procedure is developed based on the method introduced in Absi et al. (2015). In order to obtain a feasible solution, we initially solve a restricted version of the original PRPT, where the routing costs in the original model are replaced with fixed costs SC_{it} representing the approximate cost of visiting retailer i in period t . The value of SC_{it} is calculated for each $i \in N^r$ and $t \in T$ as follows: a random number ρ_{it} is generated from the interval $[0.5, 1.5]$ and the visiting cost SC_{it} is set to $\rho_{it} \times (c_{0i} + c_{i0})$. The resulting production-distribution subproblem (PDSP) is formulated as follows:

$$(PDSP) \text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u_t \cdot p_t + f_t \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N^r} b_{ij} \cdot w_{ijt} + \sum_{i \in N^r} SC_{it} \cdot z_{it}) \quad (5.16)$$

subject to (5.2) – (5.8), (5.13) – (5.15)

This PDSP is solved to determine the continuous p_t , I_{it} , q_{it} , and w_{ijt} variables as well as the binary z_{it} and y_t variables. Therefore, the remaining problem for each period is a standard TSP. In this stage, we employ the ILS algorithm utilized in previous chapters to construct the vehicle route for each time period.

5.3.1.2 Local Search

In the local search, we obtain a new solution by applying a neighbor solution generation procedure to the current solution at each iteration. The neighbor solution generation procedure is based on a solution improvement method proposed in Archetti et al. (2012). In this procedure, we solve an MIP for another restricted version of the PRPT in which we impose the production setup configuration and the vehicle routes obtained in the current solution and allow insertion and removal of only one randomly selected retailer to the vehicle routes. In addition, when the number of local search iterations is a multiple of a given parameter, $pIter$, the production setup configuration of the current solution is not dictated in the restricted formulation to produce a new production plan.

In order to formulate the restricted formulation solved in this phase, we initially select a random retailer, λ . After that, we define s_t and r_t as binary variables account for the insertion of retailer λ into period t and removal of retailer λ from period t , respectively. The insertion and removal costs for each period $t \in T$ are represented as Γ_t and Δ_t , respectively. Γ_t is the cheapest insertion cost for inserting retailer λ in the route of period t while Δ_t is associated with the cost decrease occurred when retailer λ is removed from the route of period t and its predecessor is linked with its successor. Based on the current solution, we let a_{it} be a parameter being equal to one if retailer i is visited in period t , and zero otherwise. We also let π_t be a parameter which is equal to one if the production does take place in period t , and zero otherwise. The restricted model solved in a regular local search iteration can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } Z = & \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it}) + \\ & \sum_{t \in T} (\sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N^r} b_{ij} \cdot w_{ijt} + (1 - a_{\lambda t}) \cdot \Gamma_t \cdot s_t - a_{\lambda t} \cdot \Delta_t \cdot r_t) \end{aligned} \quad (5.17)$$

subject to (5.2) – (5.6), (5.8), (5.13), (5.14)

$$y_t = \pi_t, \forall t \in T \quad (5.18)$$

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot a_{it}, \forall i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.19)$$

$$q_{\lambda t} \leq \bar{M}_{\lambda t} \cdot (a_{\lambda t} - a_{\lambda t} \cdot r_t + (1 - a_{\lambda t}) \cdot s_t), \forall t \in T \quad (5.20)$$

$$\sum_{t \in T} r_t \cdot a_{\lambda t} \geq 1 \quad (5.21)$$

$$r_t, s_t \in \{0, 1\}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.22)$$

The objective function (5.17) is the sum of fixed and variable production costs, inventory holding costs at the plant and retailers, transshipment costs, and the insertion and removal costs of the randomly selected retailer, λ . Constraint set (5.18) imposes the current production setup configuration in the new solution. Constraint set (5.19) (resp. constraint set (5.20)) ensures that the quantity delivered to retailer i (resp. λ) by the vehicle in period t can be positive if and only if that retailer is visited in period t . Constraint (5.21) enforces that the retailer λ must be removed from at least one vehicle route, which guarantees that the new solution to be obtained differs from the current one. Finally, constraint set (5.22) defines the nature of the decision variables.

We reduce the complexity of this model by implementing new sets of constraints. To this aim, we define ST as a set of triplets (i, j, t) where $i \in N \setminus \{\lambda\}$, $j \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}$, $t \in T$, and w_{ijt} equals to zero in the current solution. Moreover, for each $i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}$, let TP_i be a set of time periods in which retailer i is visited by the vehicle, i.e., $TP_i = \{t: t \in T, a_{it} = 1\}$. For each $i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}$ and $t \in TP_i$, we define a parameter δ_{it} which is the latest time period before the next visit to retailer i , when there exists a time period k such that $k > t$ and $a_{ik} = 1$. If t is the latest time period in TP_i , δ_{it} is set to H . For each $i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}$ and $t \in TP_i$, we also let γ_{it} be a parameter which is the total demand of retailer i in the periods from t to δ_{it} . In order to decrease the computational burden, the following constraint sets are added to model solved in the local search:

$$\sum_{(i,j,t) \in ST} w_{ijt} = 0 \quad (5.23)$$

$$I_{iH} = 0, \forall i \in N \quad (5.24)$$

$$I_{it-1} + q_{it} + \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} \sum_{k=t}^{\delta_{it}} w_{jik} - \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} \sum_{k=t}^{\delta_{it}} w_{ijk} \geq \gamma_{it}, \forall i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}, \forall t \in TP_i \quad (5.25)$$

Constraint (5.23) eliminates all transshipment variables which do not related to retailer λ and are equal zero in the current solution. Constraint set (5.24) sets the final inventory level of each node i , $i \in N$, to zero. As mentioned in Archetti et al. (2011), it is never convenient in a standard PRP to have a final inventory level greater than zero, both at the plant and the retailers. This is also valid for the PRPT. Finally, constraint set (5.25) imposes for each $i \in N^r \setminus \{\lambda\}$ and $t \in TP_i$ that the sum of the inventory level at retailer i before time period t , quantity delivered to retailer i by the vehicle in period t , and the total net quantity transshipped to retailer i in periods from t to δ_{it} must satisfy the total demand of retailer i in periods from t to δ_{it} . With these new constraint sets, the restricted formulation (*LSM*) solved in the local search consists of the equations (5.2) – (5.6), (5.8), (5.13), (5.14), and (5.17) – (5.25). After *LSM* is solved, the new delivery schedule obtained for retailer λ is added to its corresponding set K_λ unless it has already been available in that set. The restricted formulation (*LSM'*) solved in every *pIter* iterations involves the same set of equations with those of *LSM* except for the constraint set (5.18). As mentioned earlier, the production setup configuration obtained by solving *LSM'* is added to the set Ps if it has not been created before.

5.3.2 Second Phase

The second phase of MPH consists of three stages. In the first stage, a giant TSP over all nodes is solved to obtain the sequence of retailers to be visited in a period. Secondly, using the information coming from the first phase and the sequence of retailers, an MIP for a restricted version of the problem is formulated and solved. Finally, we solve a TSP for each period to improve the solution obtained by solving the MIP formulation.

At the beginning of the phase, after the giant TSP is solved, we form two sets, α_i and β_i , for each node $i \in N$ to save the sequence of retailers to be visited in a period. Here, α_i and β_i are defined as sets of nodes which can be visited after and before node i according to its order on the giant tour, respectively. Table 5.1 depicts the generation of the sets α_i and β_i for a three-retailer instance.

Table 5.1 All α_i and β_i sets for a 3-retailer instance on a given tour 0-1-2-3-0

i	α_i	β_i
0	{1, 2, 3}	{1, 2, 3}
1	{0, 2, 3}	{0}
2	{0, 3}	{0, 1}
3	{0}	{0, 1, 2}

In the MIP formulation, the production decisions in the PRPT are simplified by considering only the configurations stored in the set Ps . In the same manner, for each retailer $i \in N^r$, the delivery schedule of the retailer is selected among those in the set K_i , which reduces the complexity on the distribution part of the problem. Moreover, as mentioned earlier, imposing the a priori tour for the vehicles simplify the routing part of the PRPT. In order to formulate the restricted model, the set TP_i and the parameters δ_{it} , γ_{it} , and π_t from the first phase are extended with a schedule index as follows:

TP_{ik} : according to delivery schedule k , set of time periods in which retailer i is visited by the vehicle, $i \in N^r$ and $k \in K_i$.

δ_{ikt} : according to delivery schedule k , the latest time period before the next visit to retailer i , $i \in N^r$, $k \in K_i$, and $t \in TP_{ik}$. If t is the latest time period in TP_{ik} , δ_{ikt} equals to H .

γ_{ikt} : the total demand of retailer i in the periods from t to δ_{ikt} , $i \in N^r$, $k \in K_i$, and $t \in TP_{ik}$.

$$\pi_{rt} : \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the product is made in period } t \text{ according to setup configuration } r, r \in Ps \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Additionally, for each $i \in N^r$, $k \in K_i$, and $t \in T$, let g_{ikt} be one if time period t is covered by delivery schedule k , and zero otherwise. Let ϕ_r , $r \in Ps$, be one if setup configuration r is selected, and zero otherwise, and let ψ_{ik} be one if the delivery

schedule $k \in K_i$ is selected for retailer $i \in N^r$. The restricted formulation solved in this phase can be formulated as follows:

$$\text{Min } Z = \sum_{t \in T} (u \cdot p_t + f \cdot y_t + \sum_{i \in N} h_i \cdot I_{it} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in \alpha_i} c_{ij} \cdot x_{ijt} + \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in N^r} b_{ij} \cdot w_{ijt}) \quad (5.26)$$

subject to (5.2) – (5.6), (5.8), (5.13), (5.24)

$$\sum_{r \in Ps} \phi_r = 1 \quad (5.27)$$

$$y_t = \sum_{r \in Ps} \phi_r \cdot \pi_{rt}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.28)$$

$$\sum_{j \in \alpha_0} x_{0jt} = z_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.29)$$

$$\sum_{j \in \beta_0} x_{j0t} = z_{0t}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.30)$$

$$\sum_{j \in \alpha_i} x_{ijt} = \sum_{k \in K_i} g_{ikt} \cdot \psi_{ik}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.31)$$

$$\sum_{j \in \beta_i} x_{jit} = \sum_{k \in K_i} g_{ikt} \cdot \psi_{ik}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.32)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K_i} \psi_{ik} = 1, \forall i \in N^r \quad (5.33)$$

$$q_{it} \leq \bar{M}_{it} \cdot \sum_{k \in K_i} g_{ikt} \cdot \psi_{ik}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall t \in T \quad (5.34)$$

$$I_{it-1} + \sum_{m=t}^{\delta_{ikt}} q_{it} + \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} \sum_{m=t}^{\delta_{ikt}} w_{jim} - \sum_{j \in N \setminus \{i\}} \sum_{m=t}^{\delta_{ikt}} w_{ijm} \geq \gamma_{ikt} \cdot \psi_{ik}, \forall i \in N^r, \quad (5.35)$$

$$\forall k \in K_i, \forall t \in TP_{ik}$$

$$0 \leq x_{ijt} \leq 1, \forall i \in N, \forall j \in \alpha_i, \forall t \in T \quad (5.36)$$

$$z_{0t}, y_t \in \{0, 1\}, \forall t \in T \quad (5.37)$$

$$\phi_r \in \{0, 1\}, \forall r \in Ps \quad (5.38)$$

$$\psi_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall k \in K_i \quad (5.39)$$

The objective function (5.26) is identical to (5.1) except for a minor change in the sum of the transportation costs. Constraint (5.27) guarantees the selection of one production setup configuration among the set Ps . Constraint set (5.28) imposes that the product is made only in the periods corresponding to the selected setup configuration. Constraint sets from (5.29) – (5.32) are the a priori tour constraints for the plant ((5.29) and (5.30)) and the retailers ((5.31) and (5.32)), respectively. These constraints enforce that if retailer $i \in N^r$ is visited in period $t \in T$, then it will be visited in the order imposed by the a priori tour. Note that the z_{it} variables for the retailers in the original formulation are replaced with the ψ_{ik} variables. Constraint sets (5.33) and

(5.34) are respectively the counterparts of the constraint sets (5.19) – (5.20) and (5.25) from the *LSM* formulation. Finally, constraint sets from (5.36) – (5.39) define the nature of the decision variables.

The presented restricted model is further tightened by employing the following inequalities:

$$x_{ijt} \leq z_{0t}, \forall i \in N^r, \forall j \in \alpha_i, \forall t \in T \quad (5.40)$$

The constraint set (5.40) is originally proposed in Archetti et al. (2007) for the IRP. It is also valid for the PRPT. In addition to (5.40), we eliminate the number of possible transshipments by utilizing the ideas proposed in Lefever et al. (2018). Let *SB* be a set of binaries (i, j) for all $i \in N^r$ and $j \in N^r$ such that $h_i + b_{0j} \leq h_0 + b_{ij}$. We also let *STR* as a set of triplets (i, j, t) for all $i \in N^r, j \in N^r$, and $t \in T$ such that $h_0 \leq h_i, b_{0j} \leq b_{ij}$, and $\sum_{s=1}^t d_{is} \geq I_{i0}$. The following inequalities are added to the formulation:

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in SB} \sum_{t \in T} w_{ijt} = 0 \quad (5.41)$$

$$\sum_{(i,j,t) \in STR} w_{ijt} = 0 \quad (5.42)$$

When $h_i + b_{0j} \leq h_0 + b_{ij}$, it is more or equally expansive to store a unit in the inventory of the plant and to transship a unit from retailer i to retailer j than to store a unit in the inventory of retailer i and to transship a unit from the plant to j . Therefore, constraint (5.41) eliminates the transshipment variable w_{ijt} for each $(i, j) \in SB$ and $t \in T$. Constraint (5.42) is based on the same idea, but it is only valid when the initial inventory is exhausted. Note that the ideas employed in constraints (5.41) and (5.42) are proposed for the IRP with unlimited capacity in the storage area of the plant. Although these constraints are not always valid in the cases with limited storage capacity in the plant, we add them to the formulation. Because these constraints significantly reduce the complexity on the transshipment decisions. Besides, it has been observed in preliminary experiments that the quality of the obtained solutions are not much affected by the utilization of these constraints. With these new constraints, the formulation solved in the second phase (*SP*) consists of the equations (5.2) – (5.6),

(5.8), (5.13), (5.24), and (5.26) – (5.42). After SP is solved, the vehicle route is determined for each period by applying our ILS algorithm.

5.4 Computational Study

Our algorithm and the mathematical model were coded in C++ using Microsoft Visual Studio 2015. We use the callable library IBM ILOG CPLEX 12.8 with default settings to solve the formulations. All experiments were executed on a 4.00 GHz intel core i5-760X computer with 32 GB RAM.

5.4.1 Test Instances

To evaluate the performance of our MPH, we have used the single-vehicle PRP instance set A1 presented in Archetti et al. (2011). Moreover, we have adapted a subset of generated PRP-VSP instances introduced in Chapter 3 to the PRPT.

As mentioned in Chapter 3, The PRP-VSP instances in the set S are categorized into four classes. In this study, we only adapt the 56 instances in the first class to the PRPT. For these instances, the visit windows are not applied for the retailers. The set of adapted test instances are denoted by S-PRPT. The set A1 comprises 96 instance types and five instances per type, for a total of 480 instances. In this study, we have utilized the first instance for each problem type resulting in 96 test problems for the PRPT. We call the set of utilized test instances as set A-PRPT.

All test instances have been adapted to the PRPT by employing a transshipment cost value b_{ij} for each $i \in N$ and $j \in N^r \setminus \{i\}$. For all instances, each b_{ij} value is set to $c_{ij} \times 0.1$. Table 2 gives an overview of the utilized benchmark instances.

5.4.2 Computational Results

The proposed MPH is executed five times for each problem instance. After preliminary tests, the values of parameters $maxStart$, $maxIter$, and $pIter$ are set to five,

$(n \times H) / 2$, and $\lceil n / 2 \rceil$, respectively. The executions of the model and MPH have been limited to 3600 CPU seconds.

5.4.2.1 Computational Results on the Instance Set S-PRPT

The computational results obtained for the set S have been reported in Tables 5.2 and 5.3. In the tables, the problem specifications including the number of retailers and the number of periods for each instances are given in the second and the third columns, respectively. In the fourth through the sixth columns, the results of CPLEX, i.e., the lower bound (L.B.), the upper bound (U.B.), and the computational time, are reported for each problem instance, respectively. For MPH, we report the best solution, average solution and the average computation time obtained from each instance.

When the results for the set S-PRPT is analyzed, it is seen that the model can provide optimal solutions for only five out of 56 instances. For each instance where the optimality is confirmed, MPH has also obtained the optimal result. When the average gap percentages with respect to the lower bounds are compared, it has been observed that MPH outperforms CPLEX. The average gaps of MPH and CPLEX for all instances are found as 5.99% and 80.03%, respectively. In addition, MPH and CPLEX have produced the same solution in 10 instances. In the other 46 instances, MPH outperforms CPLEX in 44 out of 46 instances. It is also worth to remark that the average computational times of MPH (1060 seconds) is far less than that of CPLEX (3287.8 seconds). These results indicate the superiority of MPH over CPLEX in the set S-PRPT.

5.4.2.2 Computational Results on the Instance Set A-PRPT

Summary of the computational results obtained for the set A-PRPT is given in Tables 5.4. Moreover, detailed results of MPH and CPLEX for the problem set are reported in Tables D1 and D2 in Appendix D. In Table 5.4, for each problem class, the average gaps with respect to the lower bounds and the average computational times of both methods have been presented. From the table, it has been observed that our MPH

has provided better results than CPLEX in terms of the overall average gaps with respect to the lower bounds. The average gap percentage of MPH and CPLEX are 1.70 and 1.81, respectively. Besides, CPLEX has found the optimal solution on 41 out of 96 instances. For the instances where the optimality is confirmed, MPH has reached the optimal solution on 22 out of 41 instances. Although MPH cannot provide the optimal solution for 19 instances, the average gap of MA with respect to the optimal results is only 0.04%. Moreover, for the 41 instances with a known optimal solution, the computational times spent by CPLEX for finding the optimal solutions are averaged around 202.8 seconds, while the average computational time of MPH for these instances is only 9.4 seconds. Furthermore, the overall average computational time of MPH is far less than that of CPLEX as observed for the set S.

Table 5.2 Computational results obtained for the first and second class instances in the set S-PRPT

Ins.	n	H	CPLEX			MPH		
			L.B.	U.B.	t.(s)	Min.	Avg.	t.(s)
1	10	10	24286.5	24519.0*	3600	24519.0	24853.3	7
2	15	10	31129.6	32361.5*	3600	32361.5	32614.0	10
3	20	10	40223.9	42385.5*	3600	42417.0	42443.6	15
4	35	10	49000.6	52848.0*	3600	51431.0	51728.2	48
5	50	10	82092.8	103811.0*	3600	87825.5	88108.0	279
6	75	10	119400.0	234535.0*	3600	124951.0	125291.4	632
7	100	10	111187.0	478875.0*	3600	118852.0	119690.0	1050
8	10	20	44495.4	45487.0*	3600	45426.5	45719.0	70
9	15	20	77643.3	79496.5*	3600	79689.0	80003.7	131
10	20	20	79310.0	84721.5*	3600	83272.5	83603.8	230
11	35	20	60440.0	99173.5*	3600	70325.0	71973.9	1441
12	50	20	127424.0	220700.0*	3600	141917.0	142491.9	3600
13	75	20	244735.0	948181.0*	3600	267249.0	269955.8	3600
14	100	20	233109.0	757990.0*	3600	252065.0	254948.8	3600
15	10	10	15002.5	15004.0	167	15004.0	15140.7	7
16	15	10	23891.2	24687.5*	3600	24670.5	24784.6	10
17	20	10	46999.7	47689.0*	3600	47569.0	47691.4	15
18	35	10	76693.9	78640.5*	3600	78381.5	78869.9	41
19	50	10	62618.4	72960.5*	3600	66185.5	66393.8	257
20	75	10	153601.0	166693.0*	3600	159809.0	160178.4	628
21	100	10	113158.0	384549.0*	3600	121633.0	122694.5	1120
22	10	20	35805.3	36366.5*	3600	36188.5	36380.4	61
23	15	20	49955.8	53193.0*	3600	52717.5	53040.1	123
24	20	20	74726.8	86446.0*	3600	82738.5	83124.1	236
25	35	20	124717.0	146890.0*	3600	132280.0	132793.2	1488
26	50	20	130155.0	307589.0*	3600	145075.0	146141.0	3600
27	75	20	244005.0	687557.0*	3600	264101.0	265482.9	3600
28	100	20	228274.0	821967.0*	3600	247515.0	250217.2	3600

Notes. L.B., lower bound, U.B., upper bound,

* optimality is not confirmed after the specified CPU time

Table 5.3 Computational results obtained for the third and fourth class instances in the set S-PRPT

Ins.	n	H	CPLEX			MPH		
			L.B.	U.B.	t.(s)	Min.	Avg.	t.(s)
29	10	10	18346.3	18348.0	124	18348.0	18512.8	7
30	15	10	38876.2	38880.0	45	38880.0	39132.7	10
31	20	10	20906.7	21479.0*	3600	21665.5	21820.0	16
32	35	10	76825.7	83020.5*	3600	79679.5	79945.4	44
33	50	10	59589.1	70873.5*	3600	64469.0	64979.3	299
34	75	10	152586.0	203927.0*	3600	159642.0	159919.4	686
35	100	10	112231.0	353528.0*	3600	119633.0	120912.8	1200
36	10	20	46711.9	48043.0*	3600	47771.5	48332.1	54
37	15	20	79483.7	81163.5*	3600	81241.5	81438.3	114
38	20	20	75315.6	79917.5*	3600	78863.0	79007.6	250
39	35	20	94953.1	113590.0*	3600	105234.0	105693.4	1351
40	50	20	173224.0	390912.0*	3600	189119.0	190811.7	3600
41	75	20	118074.0	453020.0*	3600	134616.0	135730.2	3600
42	100	20	142683.0	933044.0*	3600	163505.0	164654.9	3600
43	10	10	15130.0	15131.5	77	15131.5	15326.3	5
44	15	10	24483.1	24485.5	103	24485.5	24604.2	10
45	20	10	41224.0	41718.5*	3600	41718.5	41957.9	11
46	35	10	60854.0	64983.0*	3600	62772.5	63504.1	44
47	50	10	39778.4	59438.0*	3600	44942.0	45236.2	279
48	75	10	87285.8	184274.0*	3600	92674.5	93120.3	828
49	100	10	152790.0	430824.0*	3600	161085.0	162929.4	1103
50	10	20	35985.8	36531.5*	3600	36334.0	36741.9	62
51	15	20	51164.0	55131.0*	3600	55031.0	55168.2	113
52	20	20	62072.8	64933.5*	3600	64732.0	65225.0	246
53	35	20	93358.9	126626.0*	3600	104643.0	105294.2	1564
54	50	20	127891.0	366364.0*	3600	144126.0	145169.8	3600
55	75	20	115471.0	553781.0*	3600	130227.0	130863.6	3600
56	100	20	405663.0	1290940.0*	3600	435560.0	439988.8	3600

Notes. L.B., lower bound, U.B., upper bound,

* optimality is not confirmed after the specified CPU time

Table 5.4 Summary of the computational results obtained for the set A-PRPT

Classes	CPLEX		MPH	
	Avg. Gap(%)	Avg. Time (s)	Avg. Gap(%)	Avg. Time (s)
Class I	0.47	1858	0.48	11
Class II	0.07	1714	0.07	10
Class III	6.20	2942	5.71	11
Class IV	0.52	2082	0.53	10
Avg.	1.81	2149	1.70	10

5.4.3 Analyzing the Effect of the Transshipments on the PRP

In order to investigate the effect of allowing transshipments in the PRP, we solve all of the instances in the set A with different transshipment cost values. Additionally, the optimal results for the original PRP instances without transshipment have been reported in Solyalı & Süral (2017), which allows us to compare our obtained results with those obtained for the standard PRP.

The computational results obtained for this section are summarized in Table 5.5. Additionally, the corresponding detailed results are provided in Tables D3 through D6 in Appendix D. In Table 5.5, we report the overall average cost decreases for different transshipment cost scenarios for each problem class. It can be seen from the table that the average overall cost reduction percentage decreases from 2.35 to 0.29 when the transshipment cost b_{ij} increases from $0.1 \times c_{ij}$ to $0.5 \times c_{ij}$. It has also been observed that the cost reduction significantly decreases when b_{ij} increases from $0.1 \times c_{ij}$ to $0.15 \times c_{ij}$. Moreover, it can be seen that the cost reductions obtained for the instances in the Class I are significantly larger than those obtained for the instances in the other classes. Besides, the smallest average cost decrease occurs on the instances belonging to the Class IV. The results indicate the importance of the inventory holding cost values at the retailer locations for the benefits earned by transshipment. It is shown that for the systems where the inventory holding costs at the retailers are important, transshipments can lead to significant cost reductions.

Table 5.5 Average cost decrease (%) with respect to the PRP when $b_{ij} = \rho \times c_{ij}$

Classes	$\rho = 0.10$	$\rho = 0.15$	$\rho = 0.20$	$\rho = 0.25$	$\rho = 0.30$	$\rho = 0.35$	$\rho = 0.40$	$\rho = 0.45$	$\rho = 0.50$	Avg.
Class I	5.43	3.82	2.88	2.32	1.90	1.62	1.36	1.13	0.95	2.38
Class II	0.83	0.59	0.45	0.37	0.31	0.26	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.38
Class III	1.99	0.43	0.29	0.20	0.17	0.13	0.09	0.04	0.02	0.37
Class IV	1.13	0.56	0.34	0.22	0.14	0.09	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.29
Avg.	2.35	1.35	0.99	0.78	0.63	0.52	0.43	0.35	0.29	0.85

5.5 Chapter Summary

In this chapter, the production routing problem (PRP) has been considered with the transshipment options. A mathematical programming model has been developed for the PRP with transshipments (PRPT) based on the models proposed for the PRP. The model has been implemented to test instances and it has been observed that although it can provide high-quality solutions on small-size instances, its performance tumbles as the problem size increases. In order to obtain good solutions for large-size instances, we have developed a two-phase mathematical programming heuristic for the PRPT. Comparative tests on two sets of benchmark instances have shown that our algorithm can provide high-quality solutions to the PRPT in reasonable computing times. Additionally, we perform a numerical investigation to reveal the effect of the

transshipments on the overall system cost. The results have indicated that the use of transshipments may lead to significant cost reductions.



CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION

6.1 Summary of the Thesis

In this thesis, we integrate the visit spacing policy (VSP) and the concept of transshipments into the production routing problem (PRP) for the first time. The PRP especially arises in vendor-managed inventory (VMI) systems. The VSP is an essential consistency concept in a VMI system to ensure service quality. On the other hand, the implementation of transshipments provides benefits in a VMI system by reducing the inventory holding costs.

Our study on the PRP with the VSP (PRP-VSP) has been presented in Chapters 3 and 4. In Chapter 3, the PRP-VSP is considered with a single vehicle. Two mathematical formulations are developed for the problem. The developed formulations differ in their way of modeling the VSP. In the first formulation, the VSP is modeled by employing binary decision variables for alternative visit combinations. In the second formulation, the VSP is modeled by implementing new constraint sets to ensure the specified minimum and maximum number of time periods between two consecutive visits for the retailers. The models have been implemented on the generated test problems and it has been observed that they cannot generate feasible solutions to middle and large size instances. Therefore, a matheuristic algorithm (MA) has been proposed to solve the problem. The proposed MA is implemented in a multi-start scheme in which some subproblems are solved exactly. In Chapter 4, our study given in Chapter 3 has been extended by considering multiple vehicles in the PRP-VSP. In order to solve the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP, two variants of MA have been developed. Extensive computational experiments have been performed for both versions of the PRP-VSP to assess the performance of the developed approaches as well as to analyze the effect of the VSP on the PRP.

The study of PRP with transshipment (PRPT) has been given in Chapter 5. Initially, we develop a mathematical formulation for the problem. The computational

experiments show that the developed model cannot perform well on middle and large size PRPT instances. Hence, a two-phase mathematical programming heuristic (MPH) has been proposed for the problem. The algorithm has been applied to two sets of randomly generated problem instances. The results indicate the effectiveness of the proposed approach. Moreover, an extensive computational study has been performed to reveal the effect of the transshipments on the overall cost.

6.2 Contributions

This thesis makes several contributions to the relevant literature of the PRP. First of all, a consistency concept, the VSP, is investigated within the context of the PRP for the first time. Two different mathematical programming formulations are developed for the PRP-VSP. Besides, a powerful algorithm (MA) is developed to tackle the PRP-VSP. The developed MA can be applied not only to the PRP-VSP but also to the standard PRP and IRP with the VSP. The computational results indicate that the developed MA is effective in solving both the PRP and the IRP with the VSP. Specifically, it has been observed that MA improves several best known solutions of benchmark instances. Additionally, to reveal the effect of the VSP on the overall cost, all generated PRP-VSP instances are solved without imposing the visit spacing constraints. According to the results, it is observed that the VSP results in an increase on the overall cost of between 1.43% and 11.90%, on average. Furthermore, the results indicate that the VSP generally influences the inventory holding costs at the retailers significantly.

Another contribution of this thesis is to integrate the concept of transshipments into the PRP for the first time. A mathematical programming heuristic is proposed to solve the problem. Comparative tests on two sets of benchmark instances show that our algorithm can provide high-quality solutions to the PRPT in reasonable computing times. Additionally, the numerical investigation performed reveals the effect of the transshipments on the overall system cost. The obtained results show that the use of transshipments may lead to significant cost reductions.

6.3 Future Research Directions

There exist several future research directions originated from this thesis. Related to our study on the PRP-VSP, the proposed MA can be modified with a new working visit combination set procedure that does not need the generation of all visit combinations for the retailers. Such a procedure enables the algorithm to solve the PRP instances with 20 periods introduced in Boudia et al. (2007). Moreover, other consistency concepts may be handled in the PRP. Especially, the driver consistency can be incorporated into the PRP.

In the further research of our work on the PRPT, it might be interesting to study the stochastic version of the problem. In stochastic environments, the use of transshipments can make the whole system more resistible to the unforeseeable demand variation problem. Moreover, the PRPT can be extended by considering multiple products and multiple vehicles.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: An Illustrative Example for the PRP-VSP

In this section, a small PRP-VSP example consisting of 10 retailers and 10 periods is presented along with its optimal solution. We present the coordinate values, inventory parameters, visit windows, and demand values of each node in Table A1. The parameters C , Q , f , and u are 769, 615, 3000, and 30, respectively. Moreover, the transportation cost between two locations is five times the Euclidean distance between the locations (The Euclidean distances between the locations are rounded to the nearest integer).

The optimal solution of the problem, obtained by *Model 1*, is sketched in Table A2 and Figures A1, A2, and A3, respectively. The optimal value of the objective function is 29958. In Table A2, for each period, the production quantity, the inventory levels of the nodes, and the delivery quantities of the retailers are given. In the aforementioned figures, vehicle routes obtained for all periods are depicted.

Table A.1 Coordinates of the nodes, inventory parameters, visit windows, and demand values

Nodes	Coordinates		Inv. Parameters			Vis. Wind.		$d_{it}, i \in N, t \in T$									
	Coor. x	Coor. y	L_i	h_i	I_{i0}	min_i	max_i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Plant	83.58	96.55	1538	3	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ret. 1	41.39	53.30	57	2	16	2	2	15	16	12	12	17	23	8	18	23	16
Ret. 2	3.18	0.54	46	1	22	1	1	21	19	21	22	24	10	5	7	13	5
Ret. 3	70.83	17.50	53	2	23	2	2	11	6	23	21	9	19	9	19	5	22
Ret. 4	66.01	73.78	45	2	19	1	1	23	22	17	11	16	19	13	9	16	23
Ret. 5	22.69	31.74	58	1	11	2	2	6	8	18	12	6	24	11	23	11	21
Ret. 6	28.85	40.83	47	2	16	1	1	8	24	13	10	22	25	13	14	23	22
Ret. 7	8.92	36.03	51	4	18	2	2	23	15	9	17	13	21	14	14	6	11
Ret. 8	82.26	14.30	62	1	22	2	2	19	25	18	18	22	20	12	21	13	23
Ret. 9	14.33	79.26	30	1	14	1	1	16	7	22	8	12	10	12	17	12	9
Ret. 10	81.81	85.91	42	4	12	1	1	12	21	8	8	20	17	21	21	9	8

Table A.2 Optimal production and delivery quantities obtained for the problem

Periods	p_t	$I_{it}(q_{it})$										
		Plant	Ret. 1	Ret. 2	Ret. 3	Ret. 4	Ret. 5	Ret. 6	Ret. 7	Ret. 8	Ret. 9	Ret. 10
1	364	112	28(27)	25(24)	29(17)	22(26)	26(21)	39(31)	24(29)	43(40)	14(16)	21(21)
2	-	112	12	6	23	0	18	15	9	18	7	0
3	-	0	0	22(37)	0	11(28)	0	10(8)	0	0	8(23)	8(16)
4	429	175	40(52)	0	28(49)	0	30(42)	0	34(51)	42(60)	0	0
5	-	0	23	10(34)	19	19(35)	24	25(47)	21	20	10(22)	17(37)
6	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	339	0	41(49)	7(12)	24(33)	9(22)	34(45)	14(27)	20(34)	34(46)	17(29)	21(42)
8	-	0	23	0	5	0	11	0	6	13	0	0
9	233	93	0	5(18)	0	23(39)	0	22(45)	0	0	9(21)	8(17)
10	-	0	0(16)	0	0(22)	0	0(21)	0	0(11)	0(23)	0	0

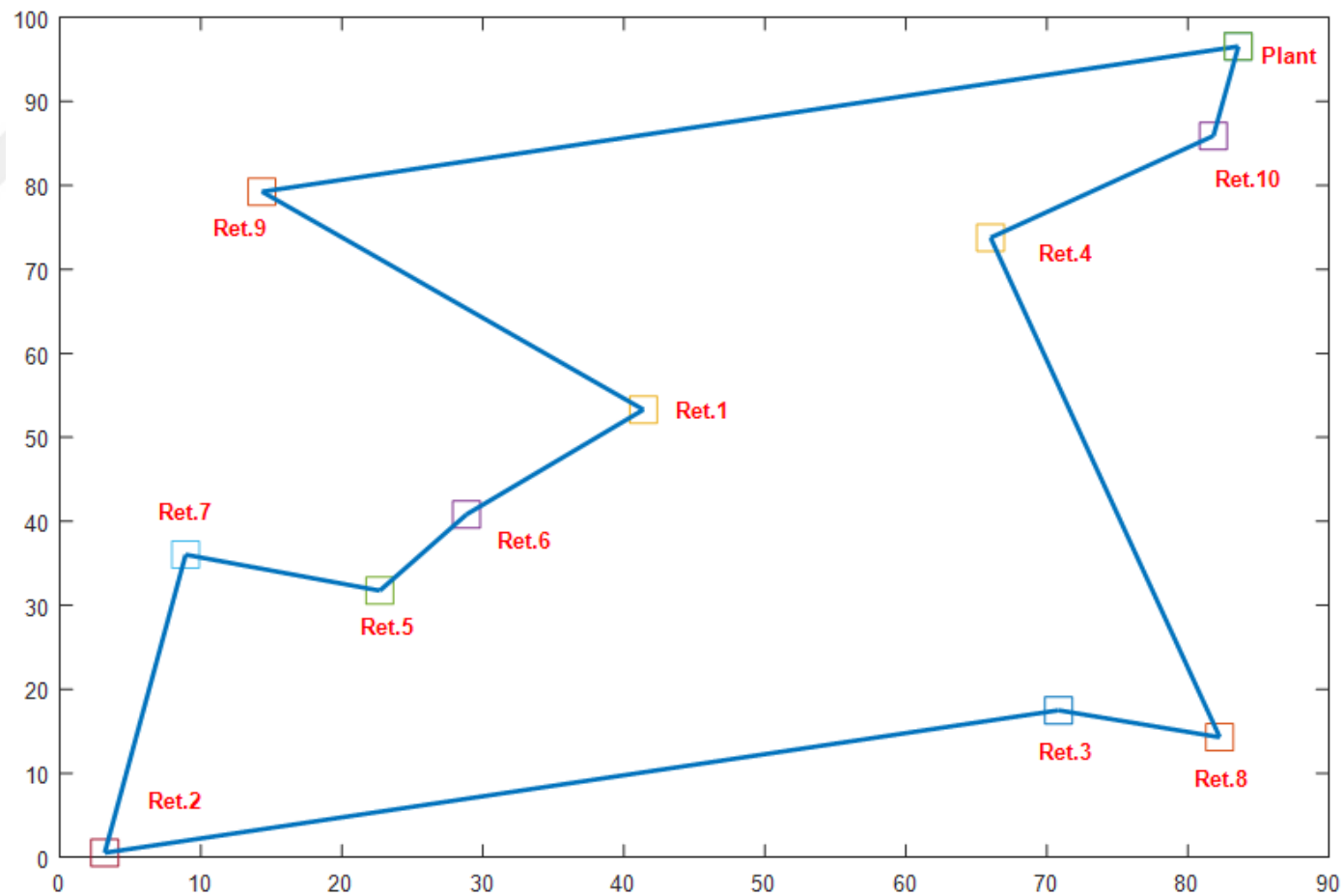


Figure A.1 Vehicle route traced by the vehicle in periods 1 and 8

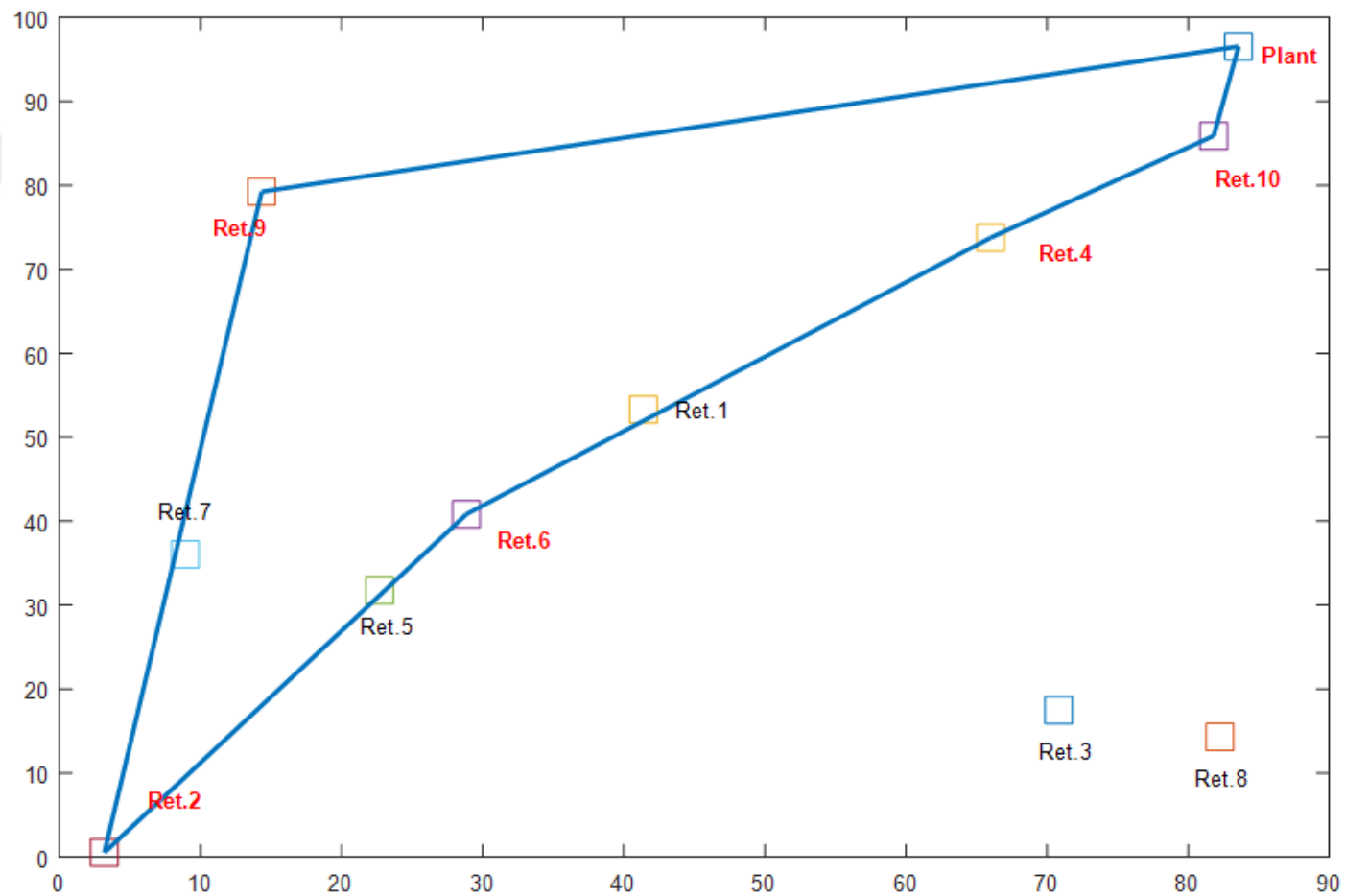


Figure A.2 Vehicle route traced by the vehicle in periods 4 and 10

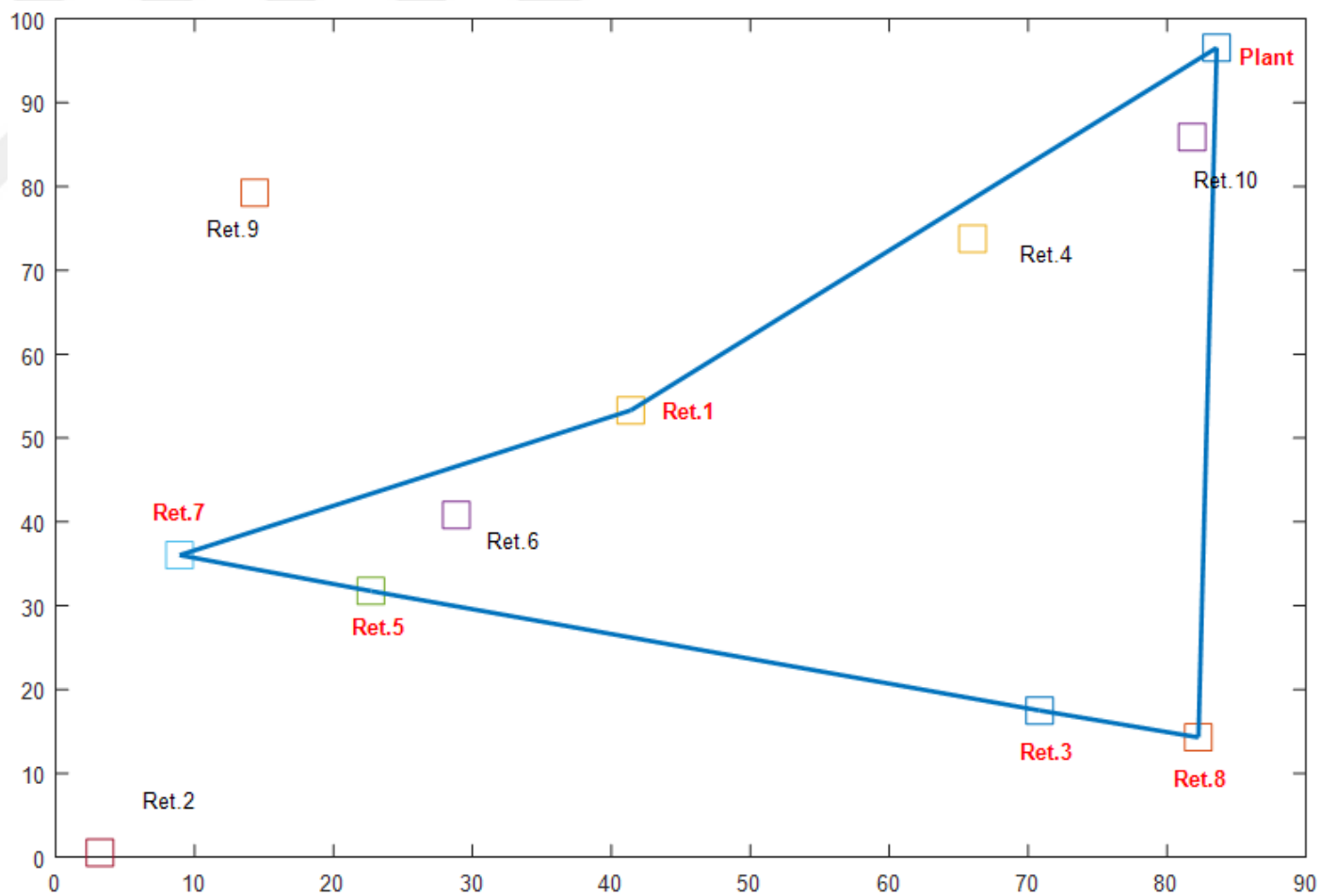


Figure A.3 Vehicle route traced by the vehicle in periods 3, 5, and 9

APPENDIX B: Detailed Computational Results for Chapter 3

In this section, we provide the detailed results of the computational study presented in Chapter 3. In Tables B1 through B6, the computational results obtained for the sets S1 and S2 are reported, respectively. Each problem instance is labeled as 'X_Y_Z', where the numbers X and Y denote the problem class and VSP type of the instance, respectively. Here, the number Z corresponds to a specific retailer number-period number combination. The problem specifications including the number of retailers and the number of time periods for each problem instance are given in the second and the third columns, respectively. For MA and IM-VSP, we report the best solution, average solution and the average computation time obtained from each instance. Bold numbers indicate the algorithm has reached the best solution.

The detailed cost values obtained by solving the generated PRP-VSP instances with and without VSP are provided in Tables B7 through B14. The objective function values found by MA on the standard PRP instances are given in Table B15. In the table, bold numbers indicate that MA has reached the optimal solution.

Table B.1 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S1

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Model1		Model2		L.B.	IM-VSP				MA			
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)		Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%	Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%
1_1_1	10	10	29958	2582	**	3600	29958	29958	30757	21	0.00	29958	29958	6	0.00
1_1_2	15	10	37837	33	37837	98	37837	37837	37837	44	0.00	37837	37837	6	0.00
1_1_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	46173	47423	47512	50	2.71	47423	47423	11	2.71
1_1_8	10	20	51740	24	51740	32	51740	51740	51740	47	0.00	51740	51740	5	0.00
1_1_9	15	20	93678	256	93678	748	93678	93678	93678	111	0.00	93678	93678	33	0.00
1_1_10	20	20	98224	47	98224	121	98224	98224	98224	133	0.00	98224	98224	45	0.00
1_2_1	10	10	17063	28	17063	23	17063	17258	17258	55	1.14	17063	17063	19	0.00
1_2_2	15	10	**	3600	**	3600	28266	28583	28676	63	1.12	28583	28583	21	1.12
1_2_3	20	10	52403	1846	52403	1422	52403	52403	52403	281	0.00	52403	52403	34	0.00
1_2_8	10	20	41872	2144	41872	1357	41872	41872	41872	522	0.00	41872	42017	85	0.00
1_2_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	61035	61335	61335	769	0.49	61335	61511	108	0.49
1_2_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	85698	92704	92704	2292	8.18	92501	92640	290	7.94
1_3_1	10	10	21002	15	21002	14	21002	21002	21002	34	0.00	21002	21002	11	0.00
1_3_2	15	10	43580	55	43580	29	43580	43580	43582	365	0.00	43580	43582	30	0.00
1_3_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	24594	24975	25076	135	1.55	24806	24862	59	0.86
1_3_8	10	20	52794	2213	52794	1852	52794	52794	52879	915	0.00	52794	53011	64	0.00
1_3_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	86276	88598	88598	2686	2.69	88598	88882	189	2.69
1_3_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	81983	86430	86446	3600	5.42	86145	86367	472	5.08
1_4_1	10	10	15647	8	15647	8	15647	16178	16178	40	3.39	15647	15657	13	0.00
1_4_2	15	10	28128	2388	28128	1806	28128	28307	28307	161	0.64	28128	28128	34	0.00
1_4_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	44887	45103	45103	515	0.48	45103	45103	50	0.48
1_4_8	10	20	**	3600	38783	1614	38783	38783	38823	253	0.00	38783	39087	113	0.00
1_4_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	57201	58538	58906	968	2.34	58968	59304	317	3.09
1_4_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	68110	70630	70999	2201	3.70	71122	71325	526	4.42

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, L.B., lower bound, Gap% = ((Best Sol. - L.B.) / L.B.) × 100

** no feasible solution found

Table B.2 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Model1		Model2		L.B.	IM-VSP				MA			
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)		Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%	Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%
2_1_1	10	10	31157	3548	31157	3375	31157	31157	31157	34	0.00	31157	31157	10	0.00
2_1_2	15	10	39962	41	39962	61	39962	39962	40097	81	0.00	39962	39962	20	0.00
2_1_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	47075	47930	48225	87	1.82	47930	47930	29	1.82
2_1_8	10	20	57293	30	57293	29	57293	57293	57293	75	0.00	57293	57293	8	0.00
2_1_9	15	20	94770	109	94770	137	94770	94770	94770	160	0.00	94770	94770	33	0.00
2_1_10	20	20	101184	1711	**	3600	101184	101184	101184	238	0.00	101184	101184	53	0.00
2_2_1	10	10	17173	46	17173	33	17173	17173	17242	81	0.00	17173	17207	20	0.00
2_2_2	15	10	**	3600	**	3600	28545	28954	29074	120	1.43	28954	28954	27	1.43
2_2_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	54084	54370	54781	607	0.53	54370	54405	47	0.53
2_2_8	10	20	**	3600	**	3600	43097	43431	43431	901	0.77	43456	43537	78	0.83
2_2_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	60601	61914	61914	895	2.17	61914	62046	124	2.17
2_2_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	87575	96138	96373	3600	9.78	96050	96159	409	9.68
2_3_1	10	10	22229	220	22229	104	22229	22229	22229	80	0.00	22229	22229	18	0.00
2_3_2	15	10	44428	514	44428	187	44428	44444	44444	256	0.04	44428	44428	32	0.00
2_3_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	24720	25100	25394	194	1.54	24859	24859	55	0.56
2_3_8	10	20	**	3600	**	3600	54631	55482	55705	779	1.56	55482	55593	81	1.56
2_3_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	88498	92070	92460	1364	4.04	92082	92264	224	4.05
2_3_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	83184	86843	86884	1360	4.40	86347	86758	505	3.80
2_4_1	10	10	16570	42	16570	39	16570	16829	17181	58	1.56	16570	16689	17	0.00
2_4_2	15	10	**	3600	**	3600	28637	28744	28905	299	0.37	28798	28820	35	0.56
2_4_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	45995	46467	46467	562	1.03	46467	46467	41	1.03
2_4_8	10	20	**	3600	**	3600	41507	42993	43055	741	3.58	42736	42958	228	2.96
2_4_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	59034	60064	60568	1359	1.74	59800	60098	327	1.30
2_4_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	68822	72550	72700	1355	5.42	71864	72190	736	4.42

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, L.B., lower bound, Gap% = ((Best Sol. - L.B.) / L.B.) × 100

** no feasible solution found

Table B.3 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Model1		Model2		L.B.	IM-VSP				MA			
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)		Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%	Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%
3_1_1	10	10	**	3600	**	3600	65321	66571	66571	52	1.91	65421	65421	7	0.15
3_1_2	15	10	87055	1275	87055	264	87055	87055	87055	110	0.00	87055	87055	11	0.00
3_1_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	111973	113288	113288	112	1.17	113288	113288	5	1.17
3_1_8	10	20	123005	91	123005	87	123005	123005	123005	104	0.00	123005	123005	5	0.00
3_1_9	15	20	224681	122	224681	126	224681	224681	224681	159	0.00	224681	224681	32	0.00
3_1_10	20	20	232071	155	232071	315	232071	232071	232071	292	0.00	232071	232071	52	0.00
3_2_1	10	10	29327	59	29327	29	29327	29383	29383	106	0.19	29327	29327	20	0.00
3_2_2	15	10	**	3600	**	3600	61042	61391	61391	103	0.57	61391	61391	19	0.57
3_2_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	134974	135037	135037	377	0.05	135037	135037	31	0.05
3_2_8	10	20	87596	654	87596	433	87596	87596	87596	980	0.00	87596	87596	49	0.00
3_2_9	15	20	129482	2495	129482	2421	129482	129482	129482	2010	0.00	129482	129618	139	0.00
3_2_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	218407	223366	223366	3600	2.27	223391	223406	265	2.28
3_3_1	10	10	44854	4	44854	5	44854	44854	44854	69	0.00	44854	44854	13	0.00
3_3_2	15	10	109844	42	109844	36	109844	109844	109844	422	0.00	109844	109844	26	0.00
3_3_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	46196	46306	46441	572	0.24	46371	46504	53	0.38
3_3_8	10	20	121191	2038	121191	1162	121191	121191	121337	2019	0.00	121191	121398	100	0.00
3_3_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	221971	222130	222130	3600	0.07	222130	222199	195	0.07
3_3_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	213149	214892	214996	3600	0.82	214914	214966	544	0.83
3_4_1	10	10	27176	8	27176	7	27176	27176	27527	74	0.00	27176	27176	15	0.00
3_4_2	15	10	59222	702	59222	434	59222	59222	59292	667	0.00	59222	59222	27	0.00
3_4_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	110106	110399	110399	2251	0.27	110374	110725	41	0.24
3_4_8	10	20	**	3600	85804	663	85804	85804	85804	392	0.00	85808	85937	135	0.00
3_4_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	127785	128459	128854	3600	0.53	128387	128425	315	0.47
3_4_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	156122	157863	158031	3600	1.12	157881	158051	588	1.13

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, L.B., lower bound, Gap% = ((Best Sol. - L.B.) / L.B.) × 100

** no feasible solution found

Table B.4 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Model1		Model2		L.B.	IM-VSP				MA			
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)		Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%	Best	Avg.	t(s)	Gap%
4_1_1	10	10	**	3600	**	3600	27547	27627	28462	20	0.29	27627	27627	4	0.29
4_1_2	15	10	33477	33	33477	71	33477	33477	33477	40	0.00	33477	33477	6	0.00
4_1_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	40888	42159	42159	48	3.11	42159	42159	7	3.11
4_1_8	10	20	43957	50	43957	48	43957	43957	43957	44	0.00	43957	43957	4	0.00
4_1_9	15	20	78464	160	78464	334	78464	78464	78464	133	0.00	78464	78464	34	0.00
4_1_10	20	20	80461	74	**	3600	80461	80461	80461	112	0.00	80461	80461	46	0.00
4_2_1	10	10	14264	175	14264	142	14264	14264	14264	44	0.00	14264	14264	22	0.00
4_2_2	15	10	**	3600	**	3600	23395	23777	23865	58	1.63	23777	23788	21	1.63
4_2_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	45588	45763	45763	829	0.38	45763	45763	31	0.38
4_2_8	10	20	**	3600	31690	2872	31690	31690	31764	1202	0.00	31690	31702	74	0.00
4_2_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	45761	46838	46838	1218	2.35	46838	46838	123	2.35
4_2_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	67672	73634	73642	3600	8.81	73634	73888	374	8.81
4_3_1	10	10	18002	32	18002	21	18002	18002	18002	37	0.00	18002	18002	12	0.00
4_3_2	15	10	38670	108	38670	3329	38670	38670	38670	379	0.00	38670	38670	26	0.00
4_3_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	18099	18547	18554	362	2.48	18209	18276	41	0.61
4_3_8	10	20	**	3600	40650	3428	40650	40650	40650	748	0.00	40650	40661	64	0.00
4_3_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	72134	73078	73078	3600	1.31	73078	73313	227	1.31
4_3_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	66071	71113	71258	3600	7.63	71121	71164	615	7.64
4_4_1	10	10	10395	10	10395	7	10395	10395	10519	26	0.00	10395	10395	11	0.00
4_4_2	15	10	21376	202	21376	146	21376	21376	21376	566	0.00	21376	21453	23	0.00
4_4_3	20	10	**	3600	**	3600	37003	37408	37408	930	1.09	37408	37408	38	1.09
4_4_8	10	20	**	3600	30619	3501	30619	30842	30842	309	0.73	30621	30721	64	0.01
4_4_9	15	20	**	3600	**	3600	41464	41811	41964	2383	0.84	41811	42174	300	0.84
4_4_10	20	20	**	3600	**	3600	47733	52051	52305	3600	9.05	51891	52058	556	8.71

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, L.B., lower bound, Gap% = ((Best Sol. - L.B.) / L.B.) × 100

** no feasible solution found

Table B.5 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S2

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	IM-VSP			MA			Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	IM-VSP			MA		
			Best	Avg.	t(s)	Best	Avg.	t(s)				Best	Avg.	t(s)	Best	Avg.	t(s)
1_1_4	35	10	54800	54807	166	54835	54845	19	2_1_4	35	10	55611	55616	270	55842	55847	72
1_1_5	50	10	93718	93723	236	93788	93810	15	2_1_5	50	10	96367	96367	410	96357	96422	122
1_1_6	75	10	136479	136496	400	134740	134785	183	2_1_6	75	10	136581	136640	693	136584	136675	250
1_1_7	100	10	132118	132171	710	132013	132097	442	2_1_7	100	10	132150	132192	958	132041	132098	424
1_1_11	35	20	78811	79467	209	78811	78816	89	2_1_11	35	20	82429	82550	359	82429	82567	115
1_1_12	50	20	153840	153857	413	153840	153876	161	2_1_12	50	20	156805	156805	610	156805	156882	216
1_1_13	75	20	290788	290846	822	290901	290969	309	2_1_13	75	20	297215	297355	1253	297437	297463	435
1_1_14	100	20	298352	298427	1181	298664	298769	686	2_1_14	100	20	297535	298144	1524	298115	298453	676
1_2_4	35	10	86386	86386	2434	86416	86421	122	2_2_4	35	10	87600	88025	3600	87565	87590	137
1_2_5	50	10	74036	74090	2049	72420	72477	277	2_2_5	50	10	73848	73983	1954	73755	73954	237
1_2_6	75	10	169975	170845	3600	169649	169708	634	2_2_6	75	10	172555	172618	3600	171576	171612	642
1_2_7	100	10	137355	137391	3600	136945	137098	733	2_2_7	100	10	137325	137385	2493	136919	137051	865
1_2_11	35	20	145677	146001	3600	145837	146199	1261	2_2_11	35	20	146121	146279	3600	147132	147362	1521
1_2_12	50	20	158694	160336	3600	160092	160361	3600	2_2_12	50	20	160575	161047	3600	158609	160339	3600
1_2_13	75	20	294111	294273	3600	293658	294016	3600	2_2_13	75	20	289369	290790	3600	293775	294664	3600
1_2_14	100	20	281815	282243	3600	282169	282448	3600	2_2_14	100	20	281577	281986	3600	282353	282662	3600
1_3_4	35	10	86350	86527	3600	86358	86362	154	2_3_4	35	10	86918	87402	3600	86905	86928	148
1_3_5	50	10	72001	72045	3600	71456	71519	445	2_3_5	50	10	72012	72093	3600	71307	71598	413
1_3_6	75	10	170706	170734	3600	169358	169431	2040	2_3_6	75	10	171802	171896	3600	169837	169877	1616
1_3_7	100	10	132802	132912	3600	132788	132838	844	2_3_7	100	10	132679	132744	3600	132854	132861	886
1_3_11	35	20	114476	114738	3600	114476	114709	1015	2_3_11	35	20	114794	115670	1359	114794	115023	1145
1_3_12	50	20	199982	200772	3600	199982	200113	3600	2_3_12	50	20	200535	203098	1366	200762	201766	3600
1_3_13	75	20	167072	167265	3600	167072	167218	3600	2_3_13	75	20	167206	167498	1384	166962	167036	3290
1_3_14	100	20	196123	196398	3600	195666	195944	3600	2_3_14	100	20	196535	196863	1387	195559	195875	3600
1_4_4	35	10	68598	68998	3600	68643	68701	303	2_4_4	35	10	69457	69822	1359	69602	69722	239
1_4_5	50	10	50054	50237	633	49595	49734	244	2_4_5	50	10	50135	50359	677	50048	50398	231
1_4_6	75	10	101228	102158	3600	101049	101697	1238	2_4_6	75	10	103020	103078	1371	102130	102186	964
1_4_7	100	10	173105	173554	3600	171579	172655	3600	2_4_7	100	10	173815	174524	1364	173462	174115	3085
1_4_11	35	20	119534	119881	3600	119534	119901	2161	2_4_11	35	20	120917	121517	1359	120585	120659	2052
1_4_12	50	20	154675	155216	3600	155394	155855	3600	2_4_12	50	20	154791	155939	1379	154518	155908	3600
1_4_13	75	20	154108	154295	3600	154445	154844	3600	2_4_13	75	20	154678	154916	1358	154206	154631	3600
1_4_14	100	20	464249	466957	3600	469822	471746	3600	2_4_14	100	20	471505	472263	1414	471996	472935	3600

Table B.6 Detailed computational results obtained for the set S2 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	IM-VSP			MA			Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	IM-VSP			MA		
			Best	Avg.	t(s)	Best	Avg.	t(s)				Best	Avg.	t(s)	Best	Avg.	t(s)
3_1_4	35	10	130149	130149	367	129940	129960	28	4_1_4	35	10	46946	46948	142	46956	46981	16
3_1_5	50	10	242908	242913	481	242948	242973	24	4_1_5	50	10	81119	81122	220	81124	81176	19
3_1_6	75	10	357441	357458	737	354437	354475	62	4_1_6	75	10	116193	116213	328	115228	115416	152
3_1_7	100	10	324017	324050	1977	324127	324144	219	4_1_7	100	10	109095	109114	906	107228	108425	512
3_1_11	35	20	153285	153933	376	153285	153290	92	4_1_11	35	20	56084	56084	204	56084	56087	110
3_1_12	50	20	364900	364908	751	364900	365071	192	4_1_12	50	20	118884	118894	353	118884	118904	184
3_1_13	75	20	761422	761477	1381	761503	761561	332	4_1_13	75	20	236436	236464	715	236436	236474	383
3_1_14	100	20	699524	699602	3600	699656	699670	926	4_1_14	100	20	213648	213661	1797	213588	213693	872
3_2_4	35	10	225567	225567	3600	225567	225574	80	4_2_4	35	10	74139	74425	3600	74144	74148	139
3_2_5	50	10	171361	171418	3600	171310	171350	264	4_2_5	50	10	57582	57737	3600	57503	57576	188
3_2_6	75	10	468649	468706	3600	468617	468640	858	4_2_6	75	10	150441	150563	3600	147174	147543	584
3_2_7	100	10	338015	338044	3600	334344	334475	1389	4_2_7	100	10	105247	105378	3600	105003	105078	553
3_2_11	35	20	365833	365889	3600	365985	366011	1383	4_2_11	35	20	119067	119240	3600	117550	117699	1613
3_2_12	50	20	371770	372644	3600	371273	371497	3600	4_2_12	50	20	119770	120105	3600	119683	119849	3600
3_2_13	75	20	746763	747076	3600	746322	747205	3600	4_2_13	75	20	231985	232796	3600	228743	231060	3600
3_2_14	100	20	682056	682190	3600	682313	683386	3600	4_2_14	100	20	211749	212358	3600	210724	211514	3600
3_3_4	35	10	229282	229334	3600	229294	229298	92	4_3_4	35	10	75145	76129	3600	75150	75195	176
3_3_5	50	10	168126	168654	3600	167934	167986	600	4_3_5	50	10	56463	56775	3600	55948	56152	539
3_3_6	75	10	468622	468872	3600	468563	468578	1015	4_3_6	75	10	148141	148684	3600	147264	147346	650
3_3_7	100	10	327837	328420	3600	326901	326961	1419	4_3_7	100	10	104443	105011	3600	104428	104598	640
3_3_11	35	20	263771	264191	3600	263968	264085	1501	4_3_11	35	20	85443	85532	3600	85173	85386	1464
3_3_12	50	20	512516	512782	3600	511816	512191	3340	4_3_12	50	20	160527	161315	3600	158383	159625	3600
3_3_13	75	20	322659	323548	3600	322397	322949	3600	4_3_13	75	20	101507	101759	3600	99786	100326	3600
3_3_14	100	20	398317	399826	3600	400916	401905	3600	4_3_14	100	20	124416	124943	3600	123285	123846	3600
3_4_4	35	10	171826	171826	3600	171826	172027	174	4_4_4	35	10	55669	55669	3600	55669	55671	201
3_4_5	50	10	101180	101438	3600	100197	100455	399	4_4_5	50	10	35323	35393	3600	34491	35102	269
3_4_6	75	10	252831	253045	3600	250757	250855	1469	4_4_6	75	10	79863	80651	3600	80066	80197	701
3_4_7	100	10	462602	464100	3600	461756	461815	2480	4_4_7	100	10	142197	142479	3600	141707	141969	1584
3_4_11	35	20	268948	269480	3600	268702	269260	2003	4_4_11	35	20	86749	87096	3600	85920	86637	1849
3_4_12	50	20	357789	357990	3600	357549	357600	3600	4_4_12	50	20	108739	109279	3600	109270	109456	3600
3_4_13	75	20	308647	308878	3600	308066	308808	3600	4_4_13	75	20	92569	93028	3600	93041	93481	3600
3_4_14	100	20	1300192	1302841	3600	1282450	1284402	3600	4_4_14	100	20	382735	384409	3600	383988	384720	3600

Table B.7 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S1

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod.		P. Inv.		R. Inv.		Trans.		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
1_1_1	10	10	15885	15885	1476	771	2217	1932	10380	8575	29958	27163	10.29
1_1_2	15	10	21636	22536	1701	0	4045	2969	10455	8860	37837	34365	10.10
1_1_3	20	10	29673	28773	294	0	5201	3911	12255	10065	47423	42749	10.93
1_1_8	10	20	32103	31203	1716	381	7561	6707	10360	8810	51740	47101	9.85
1_1_9	15	20	61236	58836	1424	584	14463	9691	16555	13245	93678	82356	13.75
1_1_10	20	20	59895	58095	1593	402	17116	10269	19620	16675	98224	85441	14.96
1_2_1	10	10	5664	5364	39	211	2600	2600	8760	7795	17063	15970	6.84
1_2_2	15	10	14472	15072	920	114	4226	2718	8965	8935	28583	26839	6.50
1_2_3	20	10	35928	35928	1216	36	6234	5997	9025	7215	52403	49176	6.56
1_2_8	10	20	20574	21174	588	320	9670	5926	11040	10840	41872	38260	9.44
1_2_9	15	20	30774	31374	898	114	13423	6719	16240	16805	61335	55012	11.49
1_2_10	20	20	57510	57510	1461	447	17508	11774	16225	14840	92704	84571	9.62
1_3_1	10	10	10734	10734	520	504	2733	2096	7015	6215	21002	19549	7.43
1_3_2	15	10	29496	29496	1104	280	4405	3991	8575	7655	43580	41422	5.21
1_3_3	20	10	9528	9828	250	108	5698	3265	9330	10250	24806	23451	5.78
1_3_8	10	20	29313	31113	2064	843	11277	7176	10140	11700	52794	50832	3.86
1_3_9	15	20	57228	58428	3032	76	14973	12809	13365	11070	88598	82383	7.54
1_3_10	20	20	58365	58365	801	201	12769	8396	14495	14555	86430	81517	6.03
1_4_1	10	10	4941	4941	68	68	5238	5238	5400	5400	15647	15647	0.00
1_4_2	15	10	13326	14526	886	0	5911	3378	8005	8410	28128	26314	6.89
1_4_3	20	10	28998	28998	0	114	7330	4272	8775	10055	45103	43439	3.83
1_4_8	10	20	20340	20940	216	222	7717	6695	10510	10590	38783	38447	0.87
1_4_9	15	20	31176	30576	114	580	13983	11413	13265	13225	58538	55794	4.92
1_4_10	20	20	38886	38286	542	216	16462	12799	14740	15560	70630	66861	5.64

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.8 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod.		P. Inv.		R. Inv.		Trans.		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
2_1_1	10	10	16785	15885	1143	1053	2224	1891	11005	8820	31157	27649	12.69
2_1_2	15	10	22536	22536	2202	0	3959	2983	11265	8900	39962	34419	16.10
2_1_3	20	10	29673	28773	489	0	5573	4107	12195	10060	47930	42940	11.62
2_1_8	10	20	33903	33003	2973	807	7592	4869	12825	10455	57293	49134	16.61
2_1_9	15	20	61236	61236	1532	524	14742	6704	17260	15125	94770	83589	13.38
2_1_10	20	20	61695	58995	816	504	17783	9269	20890	17945	101184	86713	16.69
2_2_1	10	10	5664	5664	48	108	2701	2037	8760	9105	17173	16914	1.53
2_2_2	15	10	15072	15072	1000	390	4382	3174	8500	8510	28954	27146	6.66
2_2_3	20	10	37128	37128	1148	0	6729	3993	9365	8425	54370	49546	9.74
2_2_8	10	20	21774	21774	728	792	9174	5037	11755	11130	43431	38733	12.13
2_2_9	15	20	31374	31374	848	266	13257	7041	16435	17120	61914	55801	10.96
2_2_10	20	20	59310	60210	1521	141	17767	7944	17540	18150	96138	86445	11.21
2_3_1	10	10	10734	10734	914	882	3191	2023	7390	6530	22229	20169	10.21
2_3_2	15	10	30696	30696	960	20	4537	2718	8235	8695	44428	42129	5.46
2_3_3	20	10	9528	9528	274	343	5482	3659	9575	9500	24859	23030	7.94
2_3_8	10	20	33813	32913	438	798	10366	5537	10865	13375	55482	52623	5.43
2_3_9	15	20	63228	62028	824	776	13448	9776	14570	13515	92070	86095	6.94
2_3_10	20	20	58365	58365	1086	492	12677	7709	14715	15110	86843	81676	6.33
2_4_1	10	10	5541	5541	201	201	4188	4188	6640	6640	16570	16570	0.00
2_4_2	15	10	13926	14526	684	0	6118	3496	8070	8290	28798	26312	9.45
2_4_3	20	10	28998	28998	639	114	6685	5256	10145	9490	46467	43858	5.95
2_4_8	10	20	22740	22140	294	492	6009	5214	13950	14290	42993	42136	2.03
2_4_9	15	20	31776	31776	386	674	12922	7463	14980	16630	60064	56543	6.23
2_4_10	20	20	39486	40086	532	0	16752	11045	15780	16800	72550	67931	6.80

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant
R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.9 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod.		P. Inv.		R. Inv.		Trans.		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
3_1_1	10	10	49950	46950	2775	4590	2316	2566	10380	8735	65421	62841	4.11
3_1_2	15	10	69120	69120	3426	2457	4054	3881	10455	8690	87055	84148	3.45
3_1_3	20	10	89910	89910	6147	3573	5366	5807	11865	10820	113288	110110	2.89
3_1_8	10	20	98010	98010	6990	2937	7645	8507	10360	8930	123005	118384	3.90
3_1_9	15	20	184120	188120	8584	2344	15557	12737	16420	13555	224681	216756	3.66
3_1_10	20	20	187650	184650	6849	3873	18062	16068	19510	15450	232071	220041	5.47
3_2_1	10	10	16880	16880	1087	1017	2600	2255	8760	8730	29327	28882	1.54
3_2_2	15	10	46240	46240	2008	1932	4483	3914	8660	8185	61391	60271	1.86
3_2_3	20	10	115760	115760	3000	2144	7552	7439	8725	7790	135037	133133	1.43
3_2_8	10	20	64580	64580	2168	2422	9708	8171	11140	9795	87596	84968	3.09
3_2_9	15	20	94580	94580	4328	4552	14404	10646	16170	15075	129482	124853	3.71
3_2_10	20	20	185700	185700	3510	2367	18276	15745	15880	13660	223366	217472	2.71
3_3_1	10	10	33780	33780	1326	1176	2733	2586	7015	6180	44854	43722	2.59
3_3_2	15	10	94320	94320	2100	1064	4934	5025	8490	7835	109844	108244	1.48
3_3_3	20	10	29760	30760	1238	813	6533	4173	8840	9070	46371	44816	3.47
3_3_8	10	20	97710	97710	2064	2169	11277	10038	10140	10280	121191	120197	0.83
3_3_9	15	20	190760	194760	3032	76	14973	12809	13365	11070	222130	218715	1.56
3_3_10	20	20	179550	182550	5274	3519	15638	13093	14430	14140	214892	213302	0.75
3_4_1	10	10	16470	16470	68	68	5238	5238	5400	5400	27176	27176	0.00
3_4_2	15	10	44420	44420	886	2090	5911	3934	8005	8350	59222	58794	0.73
3_4_3	20	10	90660	90660	2604	2604	8220	8220	8890	8890	110374	110374	0.00
3_4_8	10	20	65800	65800	1034	1112	8215	8287	10755	10085	85804	85284	0.61
3_4_9	15	20	97920	97920	2670	3030	14869	12068	13000	12820	128459	125838	2.08
3_4_10	20	20	121620	123620	3592	1812	17381	14107	15270	15025	157863	154564	2.13

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.10 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S1 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod.		P. Inv.		R. Inv.		Trans.		Total		
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	Gap%
4_1_1	10	10	15885	15885	1362	537	-	-	10380	8550	27627	24972	10.63
4_1_2	15	10	21636	20736	1386	1083	-	-	10455	9475	33477	31294	6.98
4_1_3	20	10	29673	28773	231	0	-	-	12255	9760	42159	38533	9.41
4_1_8	10	20	31203	30303	2394	366	-	-	10360	8760	43957	39429	11.48
4_1_9	15	20	60036	56436	2008	1208	-	-	16420	12460	78464	70104	11.93
4_1_10	20	20	59895	55395	1056	1341	-	-	19510	15820	80461	72556	10.90
4_2_1	10	10	5064	5364	530	68	-	-	8670	7760	14264	13192	8.13
4_2_2	15	10	14472	13872	760	472	-	-	8545	8435	23777	22779	4.38
4_2_3	20	10	35928	34728	1100	788	-	-	8735	8055	45763	43571	5.03
4_2_8	10	20	19974	19374	676	388	-	-	11040	9340	31690	29102	8.89
4_2_9	15	20	30174	28974	874	476	-	-	15790	14175	46838	43625	7.37
4_2_10	20	20	56610	55710	1179	1026	-	-	15845	13905	73634	70641	4.24
4_3_1	10	10	10134	10734	768	296	-	-	7100	5905	18002	16935	6.30
4_3_2	15	10	28296	28296	1884	1008	-	-	8490	7715	38670	37019	4.46
4_3_3	20	10	9528	8928	96	308	-	-	8585	8520	18209	17756	2.55
4_3_8	10	20	30213	29313	747	942	-	-	9690	9815	40650	40070	1.45
4_3_9	15	20	57228	57228	2540	1068	-	-	13310	11345	73078	69641	4.94
4_3_10	20	20	56565	55665	1293	693	-	-	13255	13420	71113	69778	1.91
4_4_1	10	10	4941	4941	54	54	-	-	5400	5400	10395	10395	0.00
4_4_2	15	10	13326	13326	460	342	-	-	7590	7640	21376	21308	0.32
4_4_3	20	10	28998	28098	0	219	-	-	8410	8835	37408	37152	0.69
4_4_8	10	20	19740	19740	272	186	-	-	10830	9900	30842	29826	3.41
4_4_9	15	20	29976	29376	310	566	-	-	11525	11665	41811	41607	0.49
4_4_10	20	20	37686	37686	580	240	-	-	13785	12730	52051	50656	2.75

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant
R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.11 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S2

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod		P. Inv		R. Inv		Trans		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
1_1_4	35	10	32676	32076	236	124	7788	5991	14135	12700	54835	50891	7.75
1_1_5	50	10	65106	66006	0	0	12527	6326	16155	17265	93788	89597	4.68
1_1_6	75	10	94698	96498	0	0	19482	7059	20560	25160	134740	128717	4.68
1_1_7	100	10	85248	84648	0	0	21545	7762	25220	29185	132013	121595	8.57
1_1_11	35	20	32739	32739	0	1234	22727	10252	23345	29645	78811	73870	6.69
1_1_12	50	20	91014	94014	0	0	34726	10823	28100	38150	153840	142987	7.59
1_1_13	75	20	201726	207126	0	0	54482	9985	34580	54285	290788	271396	7.15
1_1_14	100	20	177168	178368	814	0	76220	10342	44150	64645	298352	253355	17.76
1_2_4	35	10	59940	61140	1876	132	11580	6943	13020	12905	86416	81120	6.53
1_2_5	50	10	43602	43602	0	0	14078	8292	14740	15865	72420	67759	6.88
1_2_6	75	10	129036	131436	0	0	20733	7985	19880	25290	169649	164711	3.00
1_2_7	100	10	87300	87300	0	0	27340	5000	22305	32080	136945	124380	10.10
1_2_11	35	20	96192	96192	927	600	26628	13311	21930	25135	145677	135238	7.72
1_2_12	50	20	92442	94842	372	274	36745	12690	29135	38140	158694	145946	8.73
1_2_13	75	20	202122	203022	678	132	56201	13415	35110	51260	294111	267829	9.81
1_2_14	100	20	177354	177954	0	0	65406	11616	39055	59225	281815	248795	13.27
1_3_4	35	10	63492	62292	600	0	9476	6794	12790	11385	86358	80471	7.32
1_3_5	50	10	42798	42798	214	0	13534	7125	14910	16425	71456	66348	7.70
1_3_6	75	10	129504	131904	0	0	20159	7615	19695	24970	169358	164489	2.96
1_3_7	100	10	85806	85806	0	0	24197	6061	22785	30595	132788	122462	8.43
1_3_11	35	20	65604	65604	862	832	26480	12794	21530	26665	114476	105895	8.10
1_3_12	50	20	135675	140175	0	108	37172	10427	27135	39680	199982	190390	5.04
1_3_13	75	20	69807	70107	0	0	60560	11702	36705	52780	167072	134589	24.13
1_3_14	100	20	89100	89100	0	0	65818	12635	41205	62505	196123	164240	19.41
1_4_4	35	10	44757	45657	765	0	11826	6311	11295	12520	68643	64488	6.44
1_4_5	50	10	22035	22635	0	0	12615	6256	14945	18340	49595	47231	5.01
1_4_6	75	10	64638	65838	96	0	18915	6780	17400	23260	101049	95878	5.39
1_4_7	100	10	124893	126693	0	0	27016	8524	19670	29165	171579	164382	4.38
1_4_11	35	20	65856	68256	1230	1344	29738	8946	22710	31220	119534	109766	8.90
1_4_12	50	20	89874	92274	90	66	39321	13151	25390	37570	154675	143061	8.12
1_4_13	75	20	68214	68814	271	0	51688	11777	33935	50300	154108	130891	17.74
1_4_14	100	20	353568	355968	0	0	72436	24034	38245	53990	464249	433992	6.97

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = ((PRP-VSP - PRP) / PRP) × 100

Table B.12 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S2 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod		P. Inv		R. Inv		Trans		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
2_1_4	35	10	32076	32076	1192	368	7784	6156	14790	13205	55842	51805	7.79
2_1_5	50	10	64206	66006	1932	0	12779	5832	17440	18025	96357	89863	7.23
2_1_6	75	10	95598	96498	651	0	19725	6887	20610	25425	136584	128810	6.04
2_1_7	100	10	85248	85248	0	0	21538	5989	25255	30460	132041	121697	8.50
2_1_11	35	20	33339	33939	657	538	22413	8304	26020	30705	82429	73486	12.17
2_1_12	50	20	92214	92814	1136	0	34195	13026	29260	36180	156805	142020	10.41
2_1_13	75	20	204426	207126	1572	0	53152	11389	38065	52035	297215	270550	9.86
2_1_14	100	20	177168	177768	470	0	76472	13795	43425	61685	297535	253248	17.49
2_2_4	35	10	63540	61140	280	460	10360	6674	13385	13445	87565	81719	7.15
2_2_5	50	10	43602	44202	438	58	14080	7032	15635	18140	73755	69432	6.23
2_2_6	75	10	130236	131436	0	0	21485	7778	19855	25170	171576	164384	4.38
2_2_7	100	10	87300	86700	0	0	27034	8052	22585	29370	136919	124122	10.31
2_2_11	35	20	97092	96192	456	240	25813	13492	22760	24605	146121	134529	8.62
2_2_12	50	20	94242	95442	456	88	36177	11713	29700	38490	160575	145733	10.18
2_2_13	75	20	199422	203022	0	0	55862	13231	34085	51120	289369	267373	8.23
2_2_14	100	20	177354	177354	0	0	65338	13995	38885	56220	281577	247569	13.74
2_3_4	35	10	63492	62292	680	132	10263	6857	12470	11805	86905	81086	7.18
2_3_5	50	10	42798	42198	132	0	13357	7933	15020	15530	71307	65661	8.60
2_3_6	75	10	129504	131904	0	0	21098	7922	19235	24685	169837	164511	3.24
2_3_7	100	10	85806	85806	0	0	24563	6258	22485	30565	132854	122629	8.34
2_3_11	35	20	66204	66204	298	388	26747	13758	21545	25680	114794	106030	8.27
2_3_12	50	20	133875	139275	765	0	40025	12513	25870	37525	200535	189313	5.93
2_3_13	75	20	69807	70107	0	0	60704	11809	36695	52665	167206	134581	24.24
2_3_14	100	20	88800	88800	206	205	66024	13694	41505	61345	196535	164044	19.81
2_4_4	35	10	46557	45657	243	246	10357	5845	12445	13855	69602	65603	6.10
2_4_5	50	10	21735	22635	245	161	13148	5672	14920	18645	50048	47113	6.23
2_4_6	75	10	65238	65838	188	184	18709	6872	17995	23120	102130	96014	6.37
2_4_7	100	10	125793	126693	0	0	26039	8467	21630	29300	173462	164460	5.47
2_4_11	35	20	67656	67056	152	982	29404	12940	23705	27770	120917	108748	11.19
2_4_12	50	20	89874	91674	410	0	38677	13741	25830	37190	154791	142605	8.55
2_4_13	75	20	68214	68814	238	0	51416	12331	34810	49710	154678	130855	18.21
2_4_14	100	20	358368	359568	0	0	71577	16407	41560	60045	471505	436020	8.14

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.13 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S2 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod		P. Inv		R. Inv		Trans		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
3_1_4	35	10	106920	106920	1112	0	7788	6158	14120	12805	129940	125883	3.22
3_1_5	50	10	211020	211020	3231	75	12572	9827	16125	14240	242948	235162	3.31
3_1_6	75	10	312660	309660	1785	222	19482	13897	20510	19305	354437	343084	3.31
3_1_7	100	10	276160	280160	1106	788	23281	9657	23580	28765	324127	319370	1.49
3_1_11	35	20	104130	105130	3083	2681	22727	11613	23345	28415	153285	147839	3.68
3_1_12	50	20	297380	297380	4618	1072	34682	18220	28220	31550	364900	348222	4.79
3_1_13	75	20	669420	666420	2652	6156	54620	18468	34730	50930	761422	741974	2.62
3_1_14	100	20	580560	576560	0	8198	78924	25158	40040	55170	699524	665086	5.18
3_2_4	35	10	195800	199800	3720	456	13142	9863	12905	12305	225567	222424	1.41
3_2_5	50	10	139340	141340	2490	386	14750	8670	14730	15785	171310	166181	3.09
3_2_6	75	10	422120	422120	4860	364	21837	14012	19800	20095	468617	456591	2.63
3_2_7	100	10	283000	287000	1636	744	28513	11142	21195	27675	334344	326561	2.38
3_2_11	35	20	305640	308640	8577	684	28456	22818	23160	21955	365833	354097	3.31
3_2_12	50	20	300140	302140	5152	3954	37273	17114	29205	35740	371770	358948	3.57
3_2_13	75	20	649740	649740	4563	2361	59390	26096	33070	38665	746763	716862	4.17
3_2_14	100	20	579180	577180	0	6412	66491	22421	36385	52950	682056	658963	3.50
3_3_4	35	10	203640	203640	2356	336	10928	10057	12370	11275	229294	225308	1.77
3_3_5	50	10	136660	138660	2472	480	14302	8356	14500	15295	167934	162791	3.16
3_3_6	75	10	423680	423680	3016	804	22472	17343	19395	20480	468563	462307	1.35
3_3_7	100	10	278020	282020	1202	1144	26524	10706	21155	28050	326901	321920	1.55
3_3_11	35	20	208680	210680	4788	2714	29278	19369	21025	23475	263771	256238	2.94
3_3_12	50	20	443250	440250	3114	1953	38917	23920	27235	28825	512516	494948	3.55
3_3_13	75	20	223690	224690	2297	5515	61382	15168	35290	50415	322659	295788	9.08
3_3_14	100	20	290000	295000	1447	1204	67800	14423	39070	60460	398317	371087	7.34
3_4_4	35	10	146190	149190	1305	240	13461	9010	10870	12315	171826	170755	0.63
3_4_5	50	10	71450	72450	898	824	13049	7341	14800	16965	100197	97580	2.68
3_4_6	75	10	211460	211460	2334	1782	19803	13218	17160	19170	250757	245630	2.09
3_4_7	100	10	407310	410310	2709	1752	31672	20650	20065	22290	461756	455002	1.48
3_4_11	35	20	211520	213520	3954	5678	32154	16159	21320	27210	268948	262567	2.43
3_4_12	50	20	283580	289580	7040	3906	43579	19494	23590	33570	357789	346550	3.24
3_4_13	75	20	219380	220380	2821	5239	52866	15806	33580	47890	308647	289315	6.68
3_4_14	100	20	1170560	1162560	7664	824	81188	41111	40780	44665	1300192	1249160	4.09

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = ((PRP-VSP - PRP) / PRP) × 100

Table B.14 Cost values obtaining by solving the PRP and the PRP-VSP for the set S2 (cont.)

Ins.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Prod		P. Inv		R. Inv		Trans		Total		Gap%
			PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	PRP-VSP	PRP	
4_1_4	35	10	32676	32076	170	58	-	-	14110	12390	46956	44524	5.46
4_1_5	50	10	64206	63306	828	0	-	-	16090	12885	81124	76191	6.47
4_1_6	75	10	94698	93798	0	48	-	-	20530	17945	115228	111791	3.07
4_1_7	100	10	83448	84648	0	0	-	-	23780	21880	107228	106528	0.66
4_1_11	35	20	32739	31539	0	783	-	-	23345	22170	56084	54492	2.92
4_1_12	50	20	91014	88614	0	856	-	-	27870	25960	118884	115430	2.99
4_1_13	75	20	201726	198126	0	1191	-	-	34710	32505	236436	231822	1.99
4_1_14	100	20	174168	174168	0	0	-	-	39480	39480	213648	213648	0.00
4_2_4	35	10	59940	59940	1324	204	-	-	12880	11425	74144	71569	3.60
4_2_5	50	10	43002	42402	296	12	-	-	14205	11920	57503	54334	5.83
4_2_6	75	10	127836	126636	228	548	-	-	19110	17680	147174	144864	1.59
4_2_7	100	10	85500	85500	108	112	-	-	19395	19155	105003	104767	0.23
4_2_11	35	20	95292	92592	1845	288	-	-	21930	18665	119067	111545	6.74
4_2_12	50	20	91842	90642	1118	306	-	-	26810	23830	119770	114778	4.35
4_2_13	75	20	199422	194022	513	486	-	-	32050	29790	231985	224298	3.43
4_2_14	100	20	176754	173754	0	784	-	-	34995	34085	211749	208623	1.50
4_3_4	35	10	62292	59892	808	1236	-	-	12050	11425	75150	72553	3.58
4_3_5	50	10	41598	41598	540	206	-	-	13810	12135	55948	53939	3.72
4_3_6	75	10	129504	127104	0	716	-	-	17760	17040	147264	144860	1.66
4_3_7	100	10	84606	83406	102	208	-	-	19720	19465	104428	103079	1.31
4_3_11	35	20	65004	63804	734	304	-	-	19705	17745	85443	81853	4.39
4_3_12	50	20	133875	131175	1152	915	-	-	25500	23845	160527	155935	2.94
4_3_13	75	20	68907	68907	485	119	-	-	32115	30320	101507	99346	2.18
4_3_14	100	20	88500	88200	196	379	-	-	35720	33985	124416	122564	1.51
4_4_4	35	10	43857	43857	1137	474	-	-	10675	10960	55669	55291	0.68
4_4_5	50	10	21435	21435	301	214	-	-	12755	12570	34491	34219	0.79
4_4_6	75	10	64038	63438	548	118	-	-	15480	14695	80066	78251	2.32
4_4_7	100	10	123993	123093	594	144	-	-	17120	16180	141707	139417	1.64
4_4_11	35	20	64656	64056	1118	528	-	-	20975	18810	86749	83394	4.02
4_4_12	50	20	87474	85674	660	954	-	-	20605	20245	108739	106873	1.75
4_4_13	75	20	67014	66114	125	442	-	-	25430	25815	92569	92371	0.21
4_4_14	100	20	351168	346368	792	784	-	-	30775	32200	382735	379352	0.89

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods, Prod., total production cost, P.Inv., inventory holding cost at the plant

R.Inv., total inventory holding cost at the retailers, Trans., transportation cost, Gap% = $((\text{PRP-VSP} - \text{PRP}) / \text{PRP}) \times 100$

Table B.15 Objective function values found by MA for the set A1

N	Ins.					N	Ins.				
	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
1	40390	35183	31100	37053	34814	49	66907	62818	52770	63968	61636
2	40600	35428	31296	37184	35159	50	69184	63767	53125	66660	64411
3	41278	35691	31447	37721	35853	51	73768	67283	55235	71501	73168
4	82787	70049	63090	75284	70799	52	108715	97610	83394	102006	97166
5	83212	70214	63118	75556	71156	53	110504	98575	84228	104203	99877
6	83954	70789	63396	76346	72237	54	115577	102278	86328	109312	108570
7	31889	27054	23605	28809	27444	55	57923	54615	43909	55531	53811
8	32162	27219	23633	29081	27801	56	59454	55580	44743	57728	56522
9	32904	27794	23918	29871	28878	57	64524	59012	46843	63056	65215
10	71289	59725	52806	64436	60580	58	97225	87355	74179	91371	87587
11	72110	60290	53113	65108	61301	59	99435	89045	74613	93740	89961
12	74674	61534	54266	66965	63943	60	106300	93702	77243	100627	100520
13	43735	38260	33879	40068	38112	61	95311	93545	75239	93609	90854
14	44642	38643	34157	40880	38810	62	99540	95210	76634	98326	96318
15	45510	39355	34486	41619	40387	63	108806	101114	80651	108028	113469
16	85781	73129	65387	78265	73722	64	137092	128233	105851	131624	126459
17	86269	73395	65467	78716	74352	65	140856	130028	107656	135869	131668
18	87516	74345	65926	80038	76362	66	150606	137216	111784	145967	148871
19	34731	30134	25902	31790	30367	67	86159	85238	66366	85235	82977
20	35219	30400	25982	32241	30997	68	89806	87033	68171	89172	88313
21	36466	31350	26441	33563	32958	69	99556	92447	72299	99492	105516
22	74460	62879	55550	67712	63860	70	125667	117978	96636	120989	116905
23	75137	63774	55682	68432	64497	71	129856	120650	98041	125392	121873
24	78236	65169	56825	70859	68023	72	141332	127137	102699	137282	140821
25	240619	201503	183110	218112	204860	73	26639	22692	20125	24406	22889
26	240856	201748	183306	218243	204989	74	26979	23158	20190	24787	23276
27	241078	202011	183457	218621	205683	75	28558	23862	20763	26043	25111
28	615739	513569	468450	557684	523679	76	65518	55110	49111	59636	55613
29	616016	513734	468478	557956	524036	77	66822	55802	49590	60477	56770
30	616754	514309	468746	558746	525113	78	70328	57582	51128	63102	60155
31	231689	193374	175615	209709	197274	79	29556	25767	22577	27423	26028
32	231966	193539	175643	209981	197631	80	30020	26341	22577	27994	26458
33	232704	194114	175911	210771	198708	81	32059	27494	23303	29815	29201
34	604089	503245	458166	546836	513460	82	68736	58415	51848	62904	58879
35	604910	503810	458473	547508	514181	83	70029	59383	52159	63937	59939
36	607474	505054	459636	549369	516823	84	73829	61214	53668	66899	64211
37	243964	204580	185889	221116	207942	85	226343	189012	172135	205306	192719
38	244442	204963	186167	221765	208640	86	226789	189478	172200	205687	193096
39	245439	205675	186496	222519	210217	87	228358	190182	172773	206943	194920
40	618605	516649	470747	560665	526602	88	598318	498630	454471	542036	508493
41	619069	516915	470827	561116	527232	89	599622	499322	454950	542877	509646
42	620316	517865	471286	562438	529209	90	603128	501102	456488	545463	513035
43	234555	196454	177912	212690	200197	91	229418	192087	174587	208323	195858
44	235019	196720	177992	213141	200827	92	229820	192661	174587	208894	196288
45	236273	197670	178451	214463	202804	93	231859	193814	175313	210715	198976
46	607260	506399	460910	549997	516740	94	601651	501935	457208	545304	511759
47	607937	507294	461042	550832	517377	95	602783	502903	457519	546337	512838
48	611036	508689	462166	553320	520919	96	606629	504734	459028	549299	517091

APPENDIX C: Detailed Computational Results for Chapter 4

In this section, we provide the detailed results of the computational study presented in Chapter 4. Tables C1 and C2 present the detailed results obtained for the multi-vehicle PRP-VSP sets B1-VSP, B2-VSP, and B3-VSP. For each algorithm, the objective function values and the computational times are reported. The objective function values found by MA on the standard PRP instance sets A2 and A3 are given in Tables C3 and C4, respectively. Finally, the detailed computational results obtained for the IRP with the VSP data sets S-IRP-VSP and L-IRP-VSP are reported in Tables C5 through C9.



Table C.1 Detailed results obtained for the sets B1-VSP, B2-VSP, and B3-VSP

set	inst.	N.Ret.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		IM-MVVSP		set	inst.	N.Ret.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		IM-MVVSP	
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)				Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)
B1-VSP	1	50	354493	935	361950	4302	362280	1930	B2-VSP	16	100	664715	3879	668094	7200	668227	4935
B1-VSP	2	50	353523	1357	356939	4770	354195	1896	B2-VSP	17	100	679435	3712	720564	7200	684583	4915
B1-VSP	3	50	351099	1356	365148	4592	344016	2023	B2-VSP	18	100	645739	3745	665051	7200	647995	5067
B1-VSP	4	50	361700	1013	354024	4320	355225	1862	B2-VSP	19	100	671184	3711	706980	7200	678858	5033
B1-VSP	5	50	355309	1307	373716	4479	360964	1640	B2-VSP	20	100	677584	4063	701509	7200	675376	5020
B1-VSP	6	50	361481	1270	364611	4350	365247	1652	B2-VSP	21	100	657896	4076	659655	7200	658230	5038
B1-VSP	7	50	369750	1194	392386	4421	367628	2017	B2-VSP	22	100	677219	3691	737405	7200	679375	5048
B1-VSP	8	50	357090	1333	359085	4358	356329	1749	B2-VSP	23	100	646200	3994	646279	7200	647253	4947
B1-VSP	9	50	370136	1329	373198	4402	373807	1658	B2-VSP	24	100	651576	3876	652665	7200	649877	5303
B1-VSP	10	50	353957	1348	348839	4753	354029	2023	B2-VSP	25	100	680640	4040	681431	7200	666042	5221
B1-VSP	11	50	349768	1166	354112	4344	351713	1668	B2-VSP	26	100	647901	3622	699394	7200	648478	5018
B1-VSP	12	50	363302	1226	363547	4424	353071	1986	B2-VSP	27	100	650904	3697	693159	7200	653398	5354
B1-VSP	13	50	356394	954	356191	4575	356347	1915	B2-VSP	28	100	649648	3674	669240	7200	644717	5302
B1-VSP	14	50	359136	861	372866	4486	364303	2046	B2-VSP	29	100	667171	3624	681291	7200	679407	5224
B1-VSP	15	50	370165	1066	358384	4734	360805	1740	B2-VSP	30	100	670053	3954	732921	7200	676252	5091
B1-VSP	16	50	342925	1214	368214	4670	349114	1994	B3-VSP	1	200	994708	7200	1047416	7200	1026366	7200
B1-VSP	17	50	373246	986	372415	4449	374462	1938	B3-VSP	2	200	1019617	7200	1066676	7200	1035239	7200
B1-VSP	18	50	363843	890	383437	4435	364467	1777	B3-VSP	3	200	990269	7200	1143386	7200	1040498	7200
B1-VSP	19	50	361859	1034	378271	4616	365491	1649	B3-VSP	4	200	1047368	7200	1051401	7200	984587	7200
B1-VSP	20	50	365073	1028	367011	4564	358196	1641	B3-VSP	5	200	973701	7200	1012574	7200	996817	7200
B1-VSP	21	50	358859	1276	365082	4457	360789	1952	B3-VSP	6	200	1024702	7200	1052496	7200	1018474	7200
B1-VSP	22	50	340218	1205	356867	4384	351356	1934	B3-VSP	7	200	1021448	7200	1026423	7200	1008916	7200
B1-VSP	23	50	367630	1354	374409	4662	367244	1962	B3-VSP	8	200	1003816	7200	1012699	7200	1004500	7200
B1-VSP	24	50	354893	1290	355904	4436	359166	1755	B3-VSP	9	200	982285	7200	983910	7200	967028	7200
B1-VSP	25	50	362603	1027	370325	4653	371432	1946	B3-VSP	10	200	1005594	7200	1051296	7200	1004703	7200
B1-VSP	26	50	368208	880	386872	4620	376290	1929	B3-VSP	11	200	1015393	7200	1076305	7200	999903	7200
B1-VSP	27	50	343183	1025	359527	4633	344539	1877	B3-VSP	12	200	1055493	7200	1086652	7200	1020726	7200
B1-VSP	28	50	368309	1194	367348	4389	347718	1986	B3-VSP	13	200	1019026	7200	1036274	7200	1028568	7200
B1-VSP	29	50	365646	968	371197	4365	379923	1732	B3-VSP	14	200	1005771	7200	1022423	7200	1005940	7200
B1-VSP	30	50	358096	1373	362848	4458	359726	1997	B3-VSP	15	200	1040542	7200	1141480	7200	1077524	7200

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number

Table C.2 Detailed results obtained for the sets B1-VSP, B2-VSP, and B3-VSP (cont.)

set	inst.	N.Ret.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		IM-MVVSP		set	inst.	N.Ret.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		IM-MVVSP	
			Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)				Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)	Obj.	t(s)
B2-VSP	1	100	655166	3773	735474	7200	655337	5342	B3-VSP	16	200	997321	7200	1016606	7200	1003352	7200
B2-VSP	2	100	685367	4049	668348	7200	668162	5191	B3-VSP	17	200	1002969	7200	1012467	7200	1002050	7200
B2-VSP	3	100	648952	3974	645901	7200	644254	5303	B3-VSP	18	200	1008092	7200	1010016	7200	1004067	7200
B2-VSP	4	100	657327	3623	642497	7200	649827	5055	B3-VSP	19	200	1067445	7200	1227680	7200	1078796	7200
B2-VSP	5	100	654072	3958	682222	7200	668943	4939	B3-VSP	20	200	1017029	7200	1088448	7200	1026673	7200
B2-VSP	6	100	677680	3784	688882	7200	656773	5074	B3-VSP	21	200	1012489	7200	1019160	7200	1016421	7200
B2-VSP	7	100	649268	4055	718882	7200	672499	5208	B3-VSP	22	200	974060	7200	1010689	7200	1010003	7200
B2-VSP	8	100	646623	4080	705992	7200	669100	5262	B3-VSP	23	200	987213	7200	1026942	7200	988239	7200
B2-VSP	9	100	673768	3755	697933	7200	674087	5266	B3-VSP	24	200	1012213	7200	1042951	7200	1010279	7200
B2-VSP	10	100	660891	3878	721539	7200	662326	5264	B3-VSP	25	200	1001802	7200	1147629	7200	1090220	7200
B2-VSP	11	100	656159	3724	707751	7200	657128	4868	B3-VSP	26	200	993689	7200	1012973	7200	1008796	7200
B2-VSP	12	100	669323	3697	697820	7200	683933	5260	B3-VSP	27	200	1024673	7200	1030134	7200	995579	7200
B2-VSP	13	100	655331	3788	728714	7200	658880	5260	B3-VSP	28	200	1004801	7200	1013189	7200	997693	7200
B2-VSP	14	100	685968	3722	690854	7200	659576	5324	B3-VSP	29	200	976400	7200	1223207	7200	1009134	7200
B2-VSP	15	100	663137	3649	680738	7200	667374	5083	B3-VSP	30	200	983920	7200	1013465	7200	1007845	7200

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number

Table C.3 Objective function values found by MA for the set A2

N	Ins.					N	Ins.				
	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
1	114352	110296	103840	117773	103054	49	148532	140375	133299	153956	137994
2	115281	110902	104497	119068	104026	50	153309	144266	137553	161385	146129
3	117199	112244	106429	121590	107116	51	164085	153580	147676	173619	161640
4	235088	228115	219884	251229	214357	52	263644	252306	246399	282172	246445
5	236003	229277	220865	252835	215767	53	268620	258067	251295	289753	253824
6	238277	231210	222741	255415	218956	54	280054	267574	260680	302738	269730
7	91285	87435	84003	96700	83632	55	119288	111406	110284	127394	115911
8	92239	88612	84987	98194	85080	56	125046	116726	115488	134398	123288
9	94673	90560	86940	100773	88255	57	135938	126828	124886	147930	138868
10	207774	202035	197104	225760	191832	58	236333	225916	223420	256762	223474
11	208784	203151	198085	227171	193322	59	241090	231319	227961	263394	231023
12	211045	205088	199983	229789	196523	60	252234	241475	237785	276719	247290
13	123830	119310	112067	128494	113336	61	182302	167858	167525	191967	178474
14	126073	120099	114073	131177	115791	62	196189	179437	175074	206312	193269
15	130127	123513	117575	136132	122366	63	216121	198596	195392	233071	225395
16	242190	234136	226522	258822	222330	64	298976	282412	279382	320655	286403
17	244128	236470	228483	261987	225264	65	309304	292934	288828	334872	301382
18	248729	240298	232245	267258	231625	66	332053	312671	308758	362042	333180
19	98439	93453	90593	104423	91549	67	152925	140649	141515	165722	156613
20	100357	95545	92486	107554	94611	68	164204	151667	151801	178641	169365
21	105239	99627	96406	112598	100932	69	187269	171578	171260	206822	203430
22	214970	208053	203693	233334	199822	70	271296	255467	256079	294821	261679
23	216935	210084	205711	236461	202825	71	282225	266062	265868	308368	278859
24	221408	214171	209543	241524	209185	72	303528	285691	285755	335901	309943
25	725222	710182	695271	796706	668406	73	76861	74585	74342	85038	72438
26	726356	710781	696163	797986	669794	74	77797	75717	75263	86298	74251
27	728136	712155	697849	800538	672740	75	80063	77606	77292	89234	77303
28	1862230	1825768	1795039	2060054	1720319	76	191966	188864	186329	214075	178975
29	1863243	1826965	1795998	2061203	1721831	77	192934	189997	187243	215444	180467
30	1865707	1829061	1797903	2064187	1724827	78	194811	191675	189097	218211	183343
31	700257	685376	672926	773643	647045	79	83769	80390	80800	92640	80578
32	701416	686320	673863	774876	648606	80	85986	82662	82689	95247	83769
33	703518	688629	675849	778181	652019	81	90393	86129	86704	101039	90178
34	1820615	1786791	1758762	2020094	1683552	82	199862	195018	193666	221562	187613
35	1821655	1787914	1759644	2021662	1685157	83	201763	197165	195599	224192	191074
36	1823593	1789649	1761618	2024026	1688069	84	205923	200980	199462	229959	196961
37	734549	719079	704110	806977	678721	85	679313	667023	658057	755820	630016
38	736891	720422	705740	809958	681221	86	680279	668097	659179	757228	631690
39	740956	723247	709481	814891	687343	87	682372	669835	661048	759827	634623
40	1868736	1831727	1801840	2067312	1728154	88	1798287	1767099	1742956	2001025	1665721
41	1871179	1833837	1803381	2070181	1731491	89	1799256	1768184	1743883	2002432	1667253
42	1875651	1838276	1807437	2076350	1737947	90	1801129	1769909	1745771	2005195	1670304
43	707089	691220	679647	781353	654849	91	686577	672892	664756	764323	637961
44	708793	693406	681583	784051	658534	92	688677	675339	666823	766399	641760
45	713864	697486	685072	790040	664696	93	692775	678846	670333	772603	647861
46	1828153	1793693	1765608	2028526	1691981	94	1806176	1774111	1750282	2009444	1674281
47	1830125	1795801	1767710	2030944	1695384	95	1807960	1776254	1752185	2012430	1677777
48	1834522	1799034	1771539	2036545	1701605	96	1812249	1779800	1756170	2017792	1683666

Table C.4 Objective function values found by MA for the set A3

N	Ins.					N	Ins.				
	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
1	200912	194850	197954	195800	205675	49	264260	252024	267296	249426	271254
2	203249	196838	200708	197404	208213	50	274540	263510	280946	259753	285075
3	207721	201169	206493	201502	213171	51	297811	285860	307518	279982	314278
4	429546	408066	420863	402445	436590	52	481360	457342	476681	445238	491164
5	431755	410203	423718	404058	439755	53	492797	467455	492141	455293	506306
6	436327	414444	429283	408233	444837	54	516710	489915	521182	477526	535109
7	167595	158784	163512	153725	170637	55	217439	204678	216849	196996	222865
8	169748	161055	166636	155713	173085	56	229071	216159	232027	207793	237450
9	174800	165316	172634	160190	178958	57	253362	239620	261112	227970	266383
10	386183	362350	376570	351253	391194	58	436222	408148	429898	393463	443837
11	388567	364574	379692	353333	394236	59	447826	419235	444471	404175	459055
12	393378	369036	385605	357807	399940	60	471918	441426	473923	426126	487420
13	218338	210802	216550	211424	224905	61	331030	316034	340483	305764	340015
14	222672	215473	221974	214827	229366	62	352770	339987	363260	324927	368112
15	232421	223778	233486	223001	239389	63	397858	380733	422832	366090	426562
16	444575	422820	436122	413134	451798	64	543769	515828	543438	498361	557039
17	449058	426735	441824	417164	457305	65	566991	536805	573730	518790	587681
18	458245	435079	453691	426101	468920	66	615157	581195	633458	563680	645613
19	179897	170264	177302	164295	182963	67	281225	267744	286673	250760	291838
20	184740	174391	182631	168408	189069	68	305030	294376	311850	270722	320575
21	194364	183309	194776	177232	200476	69	354639	330002	373192	316979	375791
22	398646	373756	389639	361882	404329	70	498201	465906	496581	446891	510798
23	403355	378235	395898	365992	410356	71	521402	487789	524672	470535	539699
24	412902	387231	407880	374886	421920	72	569968	533828	584765	510466	596715
25	1376008	1288609	1342969	1256037	1395577	73	143523	133786	141060	129120	145867
26	1378298	1290671	1345561	1257697	1397956	74	145959	135887	144045	131337	148853
27	1382940	1295163	1351520	1261556	1403036	75	150929	140287	149954	135596	154610
28	3557097	3318987	3466434	3221876	3601724	76	362346	337420	354322	326756	367260
29	3559217	3320663	3469609	3224285	3604659	77	364739	339622	357229	328901	370110
30	3563980	3325568	3475463	3228440	3610569	78	369658	344048	363247	333209	375970
31	1337668	1247321	1302045	1208652	1354300	79	155825	144977	154379	139762	158923
32	1340071	1249351	1305150	1210651	1357187	80	160549	149429	160253	143817	164862
33	1345159	1253937	1311099	1215047	1362723	81	170467	158459	171956	152476	176387
34	3485194	3243140	3392343	3141789	3526111	82	374448	348639	367354	337158	380368
35	3487385	3245291	3395022	3143827	3528861	83	379285	353057	373323	341263	385890
36	3492524	3249834	3401159	3148207	3534250	84	389108	362166	384991	350122	397811
37	1393113	1304588	1361054	1270421	1414017	85	1301115	1209319	1267580	1170799	1317334
38	1397183	1308340	1366931	1274859	1418689	86	1303428	1211407	1270499	1172828	1320013
39	1406686	1317410	1378199	1282699	1429620	87	1308302	1215890	1276253	1177025	1325804
40	3569288	3331037	3480270	3232937	3614672	88	3446576	3203434	3355964	3102149	3487852
41	3574197	3334785	3486108	3237304	3621197	89	3448879	3205437	3358558	3104177	3490737
42	3584379	3343947	3497973	3245532	3632829	90	3453951	3210128	3364797	3108604	3496064
43	1350434	1259199	1315454	1219626	1367609	91	1314127	1221469	1281904	1181664	1331502
44	1355312	1263821	1321837	1223783	1373371	92	1318961	1225756	1287380	1186084	1336934
45	1365224	1272980	1333597	1232342	1384941	93	1329141	1234677	1299023	1194833	1348922
46	3498661	3255264	3406913	3153461	3540907	94	3460422	3215876	3370637	3114226	3502873
47	3503262	3259985	3412606	3157591	3546508	95	3464908	3220466	3376105	3118187	3508548
48	3513243	3268626	3423995	3166113	3557667	96	3475055	3229320	3388066	3126900	3519634

Table C.5 Detailed Computational results for the set S-IRP-VSP

inst.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Low Inventory Holding Cost						High Inventory Holding Cost					
			MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS		
			Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.		
1	5	3	1540.57	0.7	1430.51	3.1	1430.51	2410.89	0.7	2300.47	2.1	2300.47		
2	5	3	1640.66	0.5	1582.69	1.4	1582.69	2398.72	0.4	2369.93	2.2	2369.93		
3	5	3	3497.96	0.6	3497.96	2.9	3497.96	4704.32	0.7	4704.32	3.5	4704.32		
4	5	3	2702.38	0.5	2553.83	2.7	2553.69	3259.82	0.5	3141.77	2.6	3140.09		
5	5	3	1677.21	0.5	1516.65	1.6	1516.65	2829.36	0.5	2679.60	2.6	2679.60		
1	10	3	3100.87	2.4	2766.61	10.3	2766.61	6055.53	2.2	5540.09	10.4	5540.09		
2	10	3	3716.37	2.7	3692.16	9.4	3691.69	5960.79	2.2	5972.90	10.8	5960.79		
3	10	3	2666.69	2.3	2649.26	10.9	2649.26	4919.04	1.7	4808.06	8.6	4808.06		
4	10	3	3405.95	1.3	3405.95	6.0	3253.32	5586.58	1.3	5570.30	5.1	5417.62		
5	10	3	2648.07	1.7	2648.53	6.3	2647.60	5423.29	1.7	5423.29	9.4	5423.29		
1	15	3	2800.48	17.7	2800.48	77.1	2798.14	6263.58	24.2	6252.54	93.0	6252.54		
2	15	3	3202.46	16.0	2757.82	90.7	2757.82	6193.13	17.7	6071.26	61.2	6071.26		
3	15	3	3160.96	17.6	3072.84	76.1	3072.84	7007.25	15.4	6926.18	82.4	6926.18		
4	15	3	3008.26	10.8	2900.32	48.7	2900.32	5879.33	15.6	5721.52	56.6	5721.52		
5	15	3	3423.43	30.0	3405.31	133.7	3405.31	6182.91	20.8	6126.87	99.9	6126.87		
1	20	3	3606.00	35.6	3648.36	170.0	3614.72	8168.65	55.2	8232.92	249.1	8166.94		
2	20	3	3282.19	21.7	2908.48	94.8	2908.48	7657.05	43.7	7505.69	153.4	7499.50		
3	20	3	3121.48	26.4	3064.78	146.8	3064.78	7967.14	28.3	7840.54	89.1	7840.54		
4	20	3	4324.62	31.5	4323.32	114.5	4324.02	8256.71	24.7	8157.53	137.5	8171.53		
5	20	3	4482.64	33.4	4303.24	147.7	4309.84	9520.80	33.2	9324.66	127.3	9324.66		

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods

Table C.6 Detailed Computational results for the set S-IRP-VSP (Cont.)

inst.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Low Inventory Holding Cost						High Inventory Holding Cost					
			MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	Obj. Val.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	Obj. Val.
			Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.		Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	
1	25	3	3670.58	57.8	3507.06	318.7	3503.38	9388.52	79.3	8924.88	377.6		8893.82	
2	25	3	3969.00	63.6	3966.44	326.1	3992.52	10008.62	46.4	9721.74	181.6		9747.74	
3	25	3	4078.13	49.4	4068.66	268.1	4092.98	10424.03	56.6	10404.88	209.0		10427.80	
4	25	3	3771.21	55.1	3679.93	277.4	3679.93	9232.10	69.8	9057.57	301.7		9071.01	
5	25	3	4381.84	31.5	4120.26	118.5	4120.26	11839.96	39.3	11250.92	150.7		11253.90	
1	30	3	4304.49	79.5	4251.64	274.2	4286.08	12947.12	85.5	12908.90	493.9		12919.60	
2	30	3	4809.82	57.0	4155.38	291.4	4196.36	11835.50	73.1	11749.68	310.8		11783.80	
3	30	3	4254.26	48.2	3820.66	165.5	3820.66	13175.76	39.7	12487.96	134.9		12555.40	
4	30	3	4155.42	63.8	4066.60	275.1	4087.46	10451.86	71.9	10420.40	300.7		10447.40	
5	30	3	3589.54	71.0	3588.64	352.9	3588.64	10454.13	61.6	10450.42	261.2		10450.40	
1	35	3	4099.23	118.5	4084.52	421.5	4179.86	12435.35	153.5	12395.96	513.5		12492.60	
2	35	3	4419.43	118.0	4269.06	643.5	4293.58	11577.45	95.2	11191.68	446.7		11195.80	
3	35	3	4755.75	72.0	4727.58	221.9	4829.82	14759.72	69.2	14697.56	254.0		14783.10	
4	35	3	4033.57	163.4	4012.26	543.5	4011.04	11125.04	103.9	11093.08	478.9		11114.60	
5	35	3	4036.69	93.7	4035.58	278.1	4085.60	11582.46	102.9	11568.34	576.7		11633.90	
1	40	3	5943.87	84.4	4532.88	402.0	4617.74	15480.58	70.5	14256.52	359.7		14378.40	
2	40	3	4839.81	107.8	4687.81	620.5	4738.95	12320.87	121.9	12132.63	642.9		12213.10	
3	40	3	4773.26	83.8	4310.24	249.2	4439.34	14071.12	88.1	14040.36	351.9		14153.40	
4	40	3	3995.86	111.1	3994.38	598.6	4093.16	11905.67	91.9	11848.98	410.1		11996.80	
5	40	3	4507.47	78.6	4423.36	255.6	4428.78	13916.56	106.4	13911.00	312.9		13933.80	

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods

Table C.7 Detailed Computational results for the set S-IRP-VSP (Cont.)

inst.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Low Inventory Holding Cost						High Inventory Holding Cost					
			MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	Obj. Val.	MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	Obj. Val.
			Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.		Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	
1	45	3	4567.55	117.6	4537.30	390.7	4592.30	15535.14	91.7	14770.98	491.4	14887.30		
2	45	3	4899.51	84.2	4744.96	373.5	4961.36	14348.04	114.1	14270.08	319.9	14312.00		
3	45	3	4272.32	133.8	3965.34	743.1	4356.06	15184.03	146.2	12088.54	446.0	15223.10		
4	45	3	5586.15	79.1	4988.50	218.3	5108.60	14561.83	85.6	14549.88	472.3	14647.70		
5	45	3	4143.28	144.3	4154.34	818.0	4190.13	14032.13	139.9	12563.59	667.0	14113.40		
1	50	3	5265.32	101.2	5202.18	333.9	5304.94	16545.92	85.7	15734.80	428.4	15905.60		
2	50	3	5745.90	118.3	5683.76	646.9	5772.86	16232.74	137.8	16201.86	459.0	16354.50		
3	50	3	5269.60	128.7	5259.49	646.8	5430.33	16709.91	91.3	13082.63	316.7	16155.40		
4	50	3	5307.67	141.2	5286.44	499.8	5380.90	17455.22	126.6	17419.46	409.2	17563.40		
5	50	3	5089.13	223.4	5088.26	885.1	5135.26	16861.12	120.5	16683.88	432.3	16661.30		
1	5	6	4953.67	1.8	4782.66	10.0	4782.66	7387.11	1.5	7384.86	8.6	7384.86		
2	5	6	4444.36	1.3	4259.62	6.5	4259.62	7000.15	1.3	6583.67	6.6	6583.67		
1	10	6	8122.73	3.6	7552.85	19.1	7552.85	12284.59	3.1	11868.63	12.8	11868.6		
2	10	6	9385.96	3.8	9113.86	19.4	8813.06	12567.97	3.4	12356.48	17.2	12123.9		
3	10	6	6532.59	2.8	6503.10	12.6	6443.6	11030.57	2.8	10324.39	12.7	10258.6		
4	10	6	8354.71	4.6	8055.85	13.1	7997.35	12153.75	3.2	11754.52	15.9	11670.6		
5	10	6	6461.45	3.4	6232.26	19.2	6202.56	11121.21	4.5	11149.65	24.9	11075.8		
1	15	6	7123.69	51.5	7124.79	245.3	7123.69	14010.88	55.8	13772.73	311.1	13828.1		
2	15	6	7722.32	44.7	7446.68	159.2	7464.56	14074.25	34.2	13883.16	161.1	13903.2		
3	15	6	8624.62	32.5	8415.93	176.8	8468.16	16434.64	36.8	15870.31	167.3	15878.4		
4	15	6	8267.77	57.3	7504.33	261.5	7525.67	13835.35	47.8	12670.97	267.1	12575.4		
5	15	6	8577.65	27.8	8170.22	92.6	8026.59	13294.06	22.7	13194.89	144.9	13034.9		

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods

Table C.8 Detailed Computational results for the set S-IRP-VSP (Cont.)

			Low Inventory Holding Cost						High Inventory Holding Cost					
			MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS		
inst.	N.Ret.	N.Per.	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.		
1	20	6	9422.97	133.8	9109.52	613.4	9255.97	17720.76	107.3	17384.46	677.1	17216.9		
2	20	6	7600.08	162.3	7324.34	603.8	7369.69	16154.67	102.8	15854.16	556.3	15838.5		
3	20	6	9191.90	67.5	8823.94	325.8	8814.72	16750.15	106.1	16345.78	710.6	16227.5		
4	20	6	10911.07	121.1	10457.63	341.9	10502.1	18058.60	109.6	17857.66	521.6	17802.5		
5	20	6	11320.48	130.4	11209.75	638.1	11137.6	20290.28	99.6	20001.29	513.0	19703.4		
1	25	6	8983.95	182.3	8913.98	878.7	8944.51	17516.07	185.8	17496.56	936.7	17289.4		
2	25	6	10264.74	133.8	10061.95	518.4	10199.1	19987.82	102.9	19318.13	410.2	19477.7		
3	25	6	11317.59	173.5	10771.42	785.3	11022.5	21794.74	227.0	21139.00	870.2	21338.8		
4	25	6	9220.43	122.1	9240.01	456.1	9540.92	18402.16	132.8	18074.53	568.8	17956.2		
5	25	6	11350.23	142.5	11071.57	516.5	11142.1	22748.05	144.7	22420.68	967.2	22541.9		
1	30	6	11296.51	183.9	10875.24	666.7	11230.5	26068.96	214.8	25778.81	1027.2	25993.1		
2	30	6	10782.80	209.7	9944.93	752.8	10177.5	22849.13	205.8	22333.58	827.0	22534.2		
3	30	6	10079.48	171.6	9867.10	885.4	9958.46	24923.59	168.0	24942.18	699.2	25063.6		
4	30	6	10158.03	151.1	9956.23	558.8	9944.73	20095.00	145.3	20033.95	590.2	19929.3		
5	30	6	9679.76	175.4	9540.00	555.5	9714.93	21237.65	170.6	21040.68	1019.8	21211.9		

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number, N.Per., number of periods

Table C.9 Detailed Computational results obtained for the set L-IRP-VSP

inst.	N.Ret.	Low Inventory Holding Cost						High Inventory Holding Cost					
		MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS		MA-ACC		MA-SV		ALNS	
		Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.		Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	Time (s)	Obj. Val.	
1	50	14773.27	292.8	13763.08	1940.5	15714.83		35108.25	318.7	34264.99	2074.8	41495.78	
2	50	14951.61	276.1	14700.84	1809.0	15015.10		33892.64	373.6	34071.56	2846.5	41024.06	
3	50	13600.69	333.0	13179.34	2907.3	14463.18		32352.40	360.6	33119.04	2974.4	39024.53	
4	50	14098.89	262.3	14500.96	1781.0	16583.98		35611.58	379.7	35376.14	3024.1	36213.40	
5	50	13607.33	388.2	13069.21	2357.1	15797.86		32997.64	292.9	32972.29	2202.4	33797.43	
6	50	14189.62	406.8	14835.45	3424.5	16258.29		36534.40	415.0	36028.05	3527.2	37216.78	
7	50	14843.95	299.8	14696.28	1959.7	16311.37		34723.77	332.7	33740.62	2737.9	41116.16	
8	50	15483.32	340.7	15743.94	1980.9	17535.31		31249.97	277.7	31716.88	2096.5	35647.34	
9	50	13572.11	321.1	13661.14	2150.0	15749.62		33805.12	351.6	34059.76	2474.5	36826.31	
10	50	14310.04	350.5	13750.23	2204.2	15494.06		35257.34	389.9	35327.83	2431.1	41206.11	
1	100	18566.69	974.9	18878.70	5880.0	29444.29		60285.31	964.5	60725.08	6780.4	61665.60	
2	100	17369.90	863.2	17263.32	6194.1	31083.67		56311.97	873.4	55739.18	6605.9	58090.02	
3	100	19074.07	850.7	19771.44	6696.2	27524.10		61896.87	886.8	62409.39	6969.3	73909.58	
4	100	17152.17	841.7	17461.48	4921.6	32663.92		54549.97	907.0	54663.08	6970.3	60200.81	
5	100	18261.35	883.8	18044.05	5935.8	34671.10		60459.28	1096.9	60500.64	6530.9	72183.32	
6	100	19611.32	979.0	19407.66	7570.5	36721.44		59254.46	1071.7	59392.77	7885.0	72758.88	
7	100	18633.03	773.4	17898.89	6370.0	30728.49		59038.27	825.0	58981.25	5761.0	61911.65	
8	100	19228.11	920.2	19895.75	7994.4	29733.37		59248.27	848.7	59141.08	6727.9	70902.47	
9	100	20137.87	740.0	20163.30	4981.9	32884.80		62888.11	831.3	63516.73	6117.4	71378.44	
10	100	18417.34	1082.0	17693.36	8224.7	33995.74		59183.32	1099.1	59274.90	6667.0	70086.39	
1	200	27500.99	3545.3	28513.80	25350.4	43560.41		103728.18	3692.9	101205.48	29304.0	126623.20	
2	200	26021.28	3719.7	27905.77	23725.3	50848.68		101528.49	3612.1	102063.72	21747.9	135796.60	
3	200	27723.62	3405.9	27752.52	23794.1	51612.19		98428.95	3783.0	99633.81	22381.1	134917.66	
4	200	27312.18	3827.0	27449.49	26498.7	48402.07		99854.77	3604.6	103047.52	25527.6	129877.92	
5	200	27068.19	3610.1	28244.32	30340.5	42484.71		98889.02	3488.2	100047.19	25743.0	129362.24	
6	200	28354.84	2932.0	27992.83	25249.7	48852.28		112759.96	3506.6	99542.04	26395.8	129978.25	
7	200	27582.53	3089.3	26997.29	26736.7	47496.06		90647.42	3564.7	89797.18	27692.8	123098.78	
8	200	26549.21	3309.4	27074.67	28150.2	52301.34		93134.61	3605.8	94535.68	23351.9	123247.80	
9	200	27464.77	3411.1	27986.57	28115.9	48182.84		95831.10	3546.6	97348.84	23886.9	117794.62	
10	200	27379.62	3604.4	27380.60	21451.8	44648.12		100082.88	3718.8	101202.35	28353.5	116929.74	

Notes. N.Ret., retailer number

APPENDIX D: Detailed Computational Results for Chapter 5

In this section, we provide the detailed results of the computational study presented in Chapter 5. In Tables D1 and D2, the computational results obtained for the set A-PRPT are reported. In the tables, the problem specifications including the number of retailers and the number of time periods for each problem instance are given in the second and the third columns, respectively. For MPH, we report the best solution, average solution and the average computation time obtained from each instance. Detailed results of the computational study to reveal the effect of the transshipments on the overall system cost are provided in Tables D3 through D6.



Table D.1 Computational results obtained for the set A-PRPT

Ins.	CPLEX			MPH		
	L.B.	U.B.	t(s)	Min.	Avg.	t(s)
1	36323.7	36327.3	57	36327.3	36344.4	10
2	36390.6	36508.8*	3600	36508.8	36597.8	11
3	37583.1	37586.8	65	37586.8	37589.1	14
4	74927.1	74934.6	36	74934.6	75001.7	9
5	76002.6	76010.2	185	76029.7	76040.9	9
6	77328.7	77336.4	44	77336.4	77406.6	11
7	30152.4	30155.4	241	30178.4	30178.4	9
8	30620.1	30729.4*	3600	30729.4	30729.4	11
9	31559.8	31939.4*	3600	31943.8	32008.2	15
10	68616.4	68623.3	73	68623.3	68644.1	10
11	69467.1	69474	37	69474	69474.0	11
12	71257.9	71505.9*	3600	71505.9	71553.7	15
13	41005.1	41009.2	164	41009.2	41102.4	10
14	41505.9	41742*	3600	41742	41804.8	10
15	42117.9	42760.3*	3600	42760.3	43010.7	12
16	79521.9	79529.8	71	79529.8	79629.6	10
17	81289.3	81742*	3600	81728.9	81802.2	11
18	83431.3	84236.7*	3600	84236.7	84283.4	13
19	33114.5	33117.8	179	33150.1	33150.1	9
20	33840.1	34106.9*	3600	34118	34192.8	10
21	35082.4	36414.4*	3600	36323.1	36327.5	14
22	71700.6	71707.8	237	71760.1	71760.1	10
23	73396.3	73527.7*	3600	73612.3	73628.3	12
24	75829.3	76294*	3600	76294	76337.9	15
25	236104	236127	125	236127	236146.0	7
26	236251	236309*	3600	236309	236402.2	8
27	237363	237387	73	237387	237435.4	11
28	607674	607735	30	607735	607791.5	7
29	608749	608810	91	608810	608865.7	8
30	610075	610136	57	610193	610225.4	10
31	229932	229955	148	229978	229982.7	8
32	230465	230529*	3600	230529	230539.9	9
33	231420	231739*	3600	231762	231783.0	12
34	601363	601423	100	601423	601432.1	9
35	602214	602274	84	602274	602280.7	9
36	604130	604306*	3600	604306	604340.3	12
37	240785	240809	115	240809	240929.1	9
38	241403	241542*	3600	241542	241546.8	9
39	241923	242560*	3600	242560	242782.6	10
40	612269	612330	88	612339	612449.8	9
41	614203	614529*	3600	614542	614626.3	10
42	616327	617037*	3600	617046	617140.4	12
43	232895	232918	194	232950	232950.0	9
44	233646	233907*	3600	233907	233963.2	9
45	234962	236287*	3600	236123	236141.7	12
46	604447	604508	273	604560	604571.1	9
47	606267	606328	166	606412	606414.0	10
48	608601	609094*	3600	609094	609111.9	12

Notes. L.B., lower bound, U.B., upper bound,

* optimality is not confirmed after the specified CPU time

Table D.2 Computational results obtained for the set A-PRPT (cont.)

Ins.	CPLEX			MPH		
	L.B.	U.B.	t(s)	Min.	Avg.	t(s)
49	64454.6	64461	397	64554	64718.6	8
50	65099.5	68058.3*	3600	68103.3	68432.7	10
51	66717.3	73386*	3600	73091.2	73389.8	12
52	103050	103060	420	103224	103250.0	9
53	105393	108073*	3600	108118	108175.4	10
54	108548	114885*	3600	114885	115203.9	13
55	55204.5	55210	595	55374	55474.9	9
56	54967	59667.5*	3600	58587.5	58699.5	10
57	57326.8	64106*	3600	64106	64558.4	14
58	93790.6	93800	358	93800	94070.8	9
59	95177.3	98414.5*	3600	98414.5	98591.7	10
60	98952.8	106998*	3600	105485	106034.0	13
61	90282.9	92124.1*	3600	92378.1	92378.1	8
62	90906	99931.1*	3600	99141.2	99404.3	10
63	94448.4	109301*	3600	107381	108558.9	13
64	130710	130723	434	131048	131688.8	9
65	131810	140325*	3600	139358	139629.7	11
66	137093	150614*	3600	149186	150344.6	14
67	80476.2	82454.1*	3600	82861.1	83106.8	8
68	80846.4	89276.6*	3600	88308.2	88491.9	10
69	85113.6	99563.6*	3600	98136.3	98823.0	14
70	120153	121149*	3600	121551	121551.0	9
71	120801	129771*	3600	128138	128796.0	10
72	126089	140878*	3600	139813	140453.8	14
73	25889.1	25891.7	380	25903.7	25903.7	9
74	26460.5	26760.5*	3600	26796.3	26825.9	11
75	27625.3	28079*	3600	28061.1	28068.9	12
76	64302.3	64308.7	246	64308.7	64325.0	10
77	65080	65086.5	32	65086.5	65116.2	11
78	67146.2	67259.2*	3600	67268	67272.2	13
79	28568.7	28571.5	204	28632.3	28632.3	9
80	29063.3	29822.6*	3600	29822.6	29833.0	10
81	30523.9	31833.3*	3600	31828	31882.5	13
82	67259.8	67266.5	650	67272.3	67277.9	9
83	68912.8	68919.7	409	68919.7	68919.7	11
84	71204.2	71973.4*	3600	71973.4	71973.8	13
85	225669	225692	549	225704	225707.7	9
86	226304	226561*	3600	226561	226618.0	10
87	227425	227866*	3600	227861	227866.9	11
88	597049	597109	256	597109	597112.8	9
89	597827	597887	24	597887	597905.2	10
90	599970	600059*	3600	600069	600080.3	11
91	228349	228372	178	228432	228432.0	9
92	228866	229739*	3600	229623	229661.3	9
93	230299	231809*	3600	231628	231656.8	11
94	599950	600067*	3600	600072	600093.0	9
95	601660	601720	251	601720	601737.8	10
96	603991	604773*	3600	604773	604792.3	11

Notes. L.B., lower bound, U.B., upper bound,

* optimality is not confirmed after the specified CPU time

Table D.3 Overall cost changes from $\rho = 0.10$ to $\rho = 0.50$

Ins.	PRP	PRPT: $b_{ij} = \rho \times c_{ij}$								
		$\rho = 0.10$	$\rho = 0.15$	$\rho = 0.20$	$\rho = 0.25$	$\rho = 0.30$	$\rho = 0.35$	$\rho = 0.40$	$\rho = 0.45$	$\rho = 0.50$
1	40390	36327.3	37394.6	38322.6	38512.8	38681.3	38849.9	39018.4	39186.9	39355.5
2	40600	36508.8	37733.9	38550.6	38739.5	38902.3	39063.9	39225.4	39409.9	39548.5
3	41278	37586.8	38688.6	39086.6	39303.5	39496.6	39689.7	39870.4	40031.9	40193.5
4	82787	74934.6	76059.5	77069.6	78065	78884.3	79052.9	79214.4	79376	79537.5
5	83212	76029.7	77374	78571.2	79441.8	79610.3	79778.9	79947.4	80109	80270.5
6	83954	77336.4	79230.1	80735.6	81063.5	81296.3	81449.7	81640.4	81812.5	81984.5
7	31889	30178.4	30486.8	30697.2	30865.8	31034.3	31202.8	31364.4	31525.9	31687.5
8	32162	30729.4	31176.1	31411.6	31591.8	31760.3	31928.8	32107.4	32162	32162
9	32904	31943.8	32563.7	32848.2	32888.3	32914.2	32928	32911	32911	32928
10	71289	68623.3	69076.8	69287.2	69455.8	69624.3	69792.9	69954.4	70116	70277.5
11	72096	69474	70536.7	71037.4	71342.8	71545.3	71713.9	71882.4	72044	72096
12	74674	71505.9	72538.4	73475.2	74005.8	74531.9	74681	74695	74698	74698
13	43735	41009.2	41683.2	42021.6	42360	42688.2	43014.9	43340	43664.8	43735
14	44506	41742	42503.2	42841.6	43180	43508.2	43834.9	44161.6	44486.8	44654
15	45510	42760.3	43546.3	44317.4	45253	45405.5	45510	45539	45510	45539
16	85781	79529.8	81528.2	81861	82185.8	82510.5	82835.3	83160	83484.8	83809.5
17	86269	81728.9	82689.7	83060.6	83399	83725.5	84050.3	84375	84699.8	85024.5
18	87516	84236.7	85250.5	85840.4	86506.5	87299.2	87516	87516	87516	87516
19	34731	33150.1	33678.2	34011	34335.8	34731	34731	34731	34731	34731
20	35219	34118	34839.7	35227	35227	35227	35227	35227	35227	35227
21	36466	36323.1	36393.8	36453	36466	36466	36466	36466	36466	36466
22	74460	71760.1	72268.2	72601	72925.8	73250.5	73575.3	73900	74224.8	74460
23	75137	73612.3	74671.4	75117	75137	75137	75137	75137	75137	75137
24	78236	76294	77905	78210	78236	78236	78236	78236	78236	78236

Table D.4 Overall cost changes from $\rho = 0.10$ to $\rho = 0.50$ (cont.)

Ins.	PRP	PRPT: $b_{ij} = \rho \times c_{ij}$								
		$\rho = 0.10$	$\rho = 0.15$	$\rho = 0.20$	$\rho = 0.25$	$\rho = 0.30$	$\rho = 0.35$	$\rho = 0.40$	$\rho = 0.45$	$\rho = 0.50$
25	240619	236127	237195	238123	238313	238481	238650	238818	238987	239156
26	240835	236309	237571	238389	238541	238737	238878	239035	239205	239384
27	241078	237387	238486	238887	239104	239297	239490	239670	239826	239983
28	615739	607735	608860	609870	610865	611684	611853	612014	612176	612338
29	616012	608810	610174	611444	612242	612410	612579	612747	612909	613071
30	616754	610193	612030	613536	613864	614057	614250	614440	614612	614785
31	231689	229978	230287	230497	230666	230834	231003	231164	231326	231488
32	231962	230529	230966	231211	231392	231560	231729	231897	231962	231962
33	232704	231762	232409	232648	232688	232714	232724	232711	232711	232711
34	604089	601423	601877	602087	602256	602424	602611	602754	602916	603078
35	604896	602274	603337	603837	604143	604345	604514	604682	604844	604896
36	607474	604306	605338	606275	606806	607411	607481	607495	607498	607498
37	243854	240809	241483	241822	242160	242488	242815	243140	243465	243790
38	244442	241542	242303	242642	242980	243308	243635	243962	244287	244442
39	245310	242560	243346	244218	244960	245318	245339	245310	245310	245310
40	618581	612339	614328	614661	614986	615311	615635	615960	616285	616610
41	619069	614542	615490	615861	616199	616526	616850	617175	617500	617825
42	620316	617046	618062	618640	619190	619988	620316	620316	620316	620316
43	234531	232950	233478	233811	234136	234461	234531	234531	234531	234531
44	235019	233907	234590	235019	235027	235027	235019	235027	235019	235027
45	236266	236123	236200	236266	236266	236266	236266	236266	236266	236266
46	607260	604560	605068	605401	605726	606051	606375	606700	607025	607260
47	607937	606412	607471	607917	607937	607937	607937	607937	607937	607937
48	611036	609094	610705	611010	611036	611037	611036	611036	611036	611036

Table D.5 Overall cost changes from $\rho = 0.10$ to $\rho = 0.50$ (cont.)

Ins.	PRP	PRPT: $b_{ij} = \rho \times c_{ij}$								
		$\rho = 0.10$	$\rho = 0.15$	$\rho = 0.20$	$\rho = 0.25$	$\rho = 0.30$	$\rho = 0.35$	$\rho = 0.40$	$\rho = 0.45$	$\rho = 0.50$
49	66907	64554	66907	66907	66907	66907	66907	66907	66907	66907
50	69184	68103.3	69184	69185	69184	69185	69185	69185	69185	69185
51	73768	73091.2	73168.8	73246.4	73324	73401.6	73479.2	73556.8	73752.6	73712
52	108475	103224	105936	107553	108475	108475	108475	108475	108475	108475
53	110504	108118	110504	110504	110504	110504	110504	110504	110504	110504
54	115574	114885	114963	115040	115118	115196	115345	115434	115428	115506
55	57425	55374	57425	57425	57425	57425	57425	57425	57425	57425
56	59454	58587.5	59454	59454	59454	59454	59454	59454	59454	59454
57	64524	64106	63939.6	63990.4	64117.3	64206.1	64294.9	64383.8	64472.6	64456
58	97225	93800	96676.3	97225	97225	97225	97225	97225	97225	97225
59	99435	98414.5	99435	99435	99435	99435	99435	99435	99435	99435
60	106294	105485	105710	105760	105887	105916	105993	106071	106243	106226
61	95311	92378.1	95311	95311	95311	95311	95311	95311	95311	95311
62	99540	99141.2	99566	99540	99566	99540	99566	99566	99566	99566
63	108800	107381	107538	107696	107957	108137	108170	108327	108485	108643
64	136879	131048	136388	136879	136879	136879	136879	136879	136879	136879
65	140856	139358	140856	140856	140856	140856	140856	140856	140856	140856
66	150606	149186	149332	149490	149648	149806	150087	150267	150447	150437
67	85829	82861.1	85829	85829	85829	85829	85829	85829	85829	85829
68	89806	88308.2	89806	89806	89806	89806	89806	89806	89806	89806
69	99556	98136.3	98282.4	98496.6	98676.8	98755.8	99037	99217.2	99397.4	99562
70	125629	121551	125629	125629	125629	125629	125629	125629	125629	125629
71	129856	128138	129856	129856	129856	129856	129856	129856	129856	129856
72	141326	139813	140052	140267	140447	140627	140807	140841	141167	141332

Table D.6 Overall cost changes from $\rho = 0.10$ to $\rho = 0.50$ (cont.)

Ins.	PRP	PRPT: $b_{ij} = \rho \times c_{ij}$								
		$\rho = 0.10$	$\rho = 0.15$	$\rho = 0.20$	$\rho = 0.25$	$\rho = 0.30$	$\rho = 0.35$	$\rho = 0.40$	$\rho = 0.45$	$\rho = 0.50$
73	26543	25903.7	26116.2	26236.2	26315.8	26395.3	26474.8	26543	26543	26543
74	26979	26796.3	26979	26979	26979	26979	26979	26979	26979	26979
75	28558	28061.1	28389	28483	28509.5	28519.4	28529.3	28534.4	28542.2	28550
76	65518	64308.7	64752.1	64893.2	64972.8	65052.3	65131.9	65211.4	65290.9	65370.5
77	66822	65086.5	66018	66651	66806.5	66834	66822	66822	66822	66822
78	70328	67268	68377.3	69065.8	69643	69883	70120	70265	70288.8	70305
79	29556	28632.3	29036.3	29278	29438.8	29556	29556	29556	29556	29556
80	30020	29822.6	30020	30020	30020	30020	30020	30020	30020	30020
81	32059	31828	31913	31946.8	31960	31984.3	32002.3	32007.4	32023.2	32039
82	68736	67272.3	67736.8	67948	68108.8	68269.5	68430.3	68591	68736	68736
83	69920	68919.7	69887	69920	69920	69920	69920	69920	69920	69920
84	73829	71973.4	73103	73559	73695	73741.7	73761.6	73777.4	73793.2	73809
85	226343	225704	225916	226036	226116	226195	226275	226343	226343	226343
86	226779	226561	226779	226779	226779	226779	226779	226779	226779	226779
87	228358	227861	228189	228283	228310	228319	228329	228334	228349	228350
88	598318	597109	597552	597693	597773	597852	597932	598011	598091	598171
89	599622	597887	598847	599451	599607	599634	599622	599622	599622	599622
90	603128	600069	601177	601866	602443	602683	602920	603068	603088	603105
91	229356	228432	228836	229078	229239	229356	229356	229356	229356	229356
92	229820	229623	229820	229820	229820	229820	229820	229820	229820	229820
93	231859	231628	231713	231744	231760	231776	231792	231819	231823	231851
94	601536	600072	600506	600748	600909	601070	601230	601391	601536	601536
95	602720	601720	602687	602720	602720	602720	602720	602720	602720	602720
96	606629	604773	605903	606359	606495	606542	606562	606577	606593	606622